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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

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### Israel

Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres called President Reagan's invitation to meet with him and the Egyptian foreign minister a "welcome opportunity" to carry on the peace process but "political sources" in Jerusalem said they do not expect a "breakthrough" to result from the "tripartite summit," according to IDF radio. Deputy Prime Minister David Levi, however, called the invitation to hold such a meeting before the elections "amazing evidence of domestic and foreign political irresponsibility," the radio disclosed. "Sources close" to Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said he is "not pleased" about the meeting and opined that the idea "may have come from Peres rather than Reagan," Jerusalem radio reported. Shamir himself said he is "not familiar with the details" of the proposed meeting and added that "we must not forget that we are in an election period," IDF radio revealed.

One of a group of "masked Arabs armed with knives" was killed after the group "threatened" an IDF unit in Janin, Jerusalem radio reported. The "law and order operation" is continuing in Qalqilyah and "approximately 200" persons have been detained to date, the radio noted.

### Palestinian Affairs

The current "free and confident dialogue" within the PLO is taking place "without fear from any idea, ideology, or stand," PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told the Palestinian people in an address broadcast by Baghdad Voice of the PLO radio. Palestinian "democracy" is "the source of our strength and pride," he added. Contending that Israel has "lost the initiative," the PLO leader stressed that the longer the uprising lasts, the shorter will be the Israeli occupation.

The radio also broadcast a version of "Call No 25" which called for action to support 'Arafat's upcoming meeting with the Council of Europe and to urge European governments to work toward providing international protection and supervision of the occupied territories. However, unlike the previously reported pamphlet cited by Radio Monte Carlo, Baghdad Voice of the PLO's version did not criticize the Islamic Resistance Movement.

Meanwhile, the Islamic Resistance Movement distributed a document that says the Palestine problem can only be solved by "holy war" and denounces "pacifist solutions and proposals for an international conference," AFP reported.

AFP also cited a UAE press interview with Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf who "confirmed" that the PNC will meet in the first week of October in Algiers or Tunis. Khalaf stressed the need for the PLO to take a "decisive initiative," but acknowledged that Palestinian leaders have not yet reached a decision on establishing a government-in-exile.

### Iraq

If the "Iranian mentality" continues at Geneva, this will place real obstacles in the way of peace, President Saddam Husayn asserted in an interview carried by INA. Speaking to Egyptian journalists accompanying visiting President Husni Mubarak, the Iraqi leader affirmed that the 1975 Algiers Agreement has become "a thing of the past" and that a new agreement should be produced. On the Iraqi Army's operations against Kurdish rebels, Saddam Husayn claimed that Kurdish villagers crossed into Turkey "under the duress of the saboteurs," who used the civilians "to protect themselves" from air strikes. He stressed that the "complete and comprehensive amnesty" applies to "all" except Jalal Talabani.

Regarding Saddam Husayn's talks with Mubarak, INA said the Egyptian leader expressed congratulations on Iraq's "clear victory" in the war, considering it a victory for all Arabs and one that consolidates their status and capability. An Egyptian official cited by MENA said the two presidents agreed to give "new momentum" to bilateral cooperations, as there is extensive scope for joint projects in reconstruction, developing production, and improving services.

In another development reported by INA, Arab information ministers issed a statement at the end of their meeting in Baghdad in which they expressed "solidarity" with Iraq's position at the peace negotiations and affirmed support for Iraq's "sincere efforts to achieve a lasting and comprehensive peace," according to INA. The Syrian delegation had "reservations" about the statement, the agency noted.

In implementing the RCC's amnesty for Kurdish refugees, a Ba'th Party official cited by INA announced that Iraq has opened two border posts to facilitate the return of Iraqi Kurds. One post is in Dahuk Governorate on the Iraqi-Turkish border, while the other is in Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate on the border with Iran.

As for Iraq's military power, Kuwait's AL-QABAS reported that the USSR supplied Iraq with a squadron of MiG-29 aircraft after Iran announced its acceptance of the cease-fire in July.

### Iran

**Geneva Talks**—In an interview reported by Tehran radio, Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati reaffirmed that the talks are being hampered by Iraq's preconditions, adding that the Iraqi delegation lacks the necessary jurisdiction, is incapable of making fundamental decisions, and is moving in a "restricted framework." A Tehran radio commentary cited the view of "informed UN sources" that Iraq has "downgraded" its previous condition on clearing the Shatt al-'Arab, though it "still insists" on a declaration of freedom of navigation in the Gulf.

**Law on Punishments**—In a decree broadcast by Tehran radio, Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni announced his decision to "abolish the right to carry out state punishments," which are for offenses not covered by religious law. Noting that it is a prerogative of "fully qualified" theologians to carry out punishment verdicts, Khomeyni ruled that in order to prevent "corruption," the "assembly" for the discernment of the interests of the state should henceforth decide whether such sentences are carried out and "act as it discerns to be proper." The letter was addressed to President 'Ali Khamene'i, the chairman of this assembly, which was established earlier this year to adjudicate differences between the Majlis and the Council of Guardians.

The assembly subsequently met to review state punishments and decided that officials in charge of punishments should continue their work pending an investigation, Tehran radio reported.

## Libya

Libya does not seek to resume relations with the "current" U.S. "evil specimen" because the United States practices "every kind of terrorism," JANA's political editor commented in response to a U.S. spokesman's remarks on Libyan terrorism.

## Tunisia

President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali met with representatives of Tunisia's ruling and opposition political parties to begin work on drawing up the national charter, Tunis radio reported. In his remarks at the meeting Ben Ali cited the parties' united support for the "7 November declaration" and their backing of its "democratic aspirations," the radio stated.

## Afghanistan-Pakistan

The Pakistani Air Force shot down an "intruding" Afghan aircraft over the Bajaur area, Islamabad radio announced. An Afghan Air Force pilot, one of five who recently defected to Pakistan, told journalists that "most" Afghan "bombings" are conducted by Soviet pilots who "come direct from the Soviet Union," AFP disclosed. He said Soviet advisers are commanding the Afghan Air Force and they "did not trust" and "feared desertions" by Afghan pilots, whose morale is "low."

Continuing recent diplomatic moves, the Afghan Foreign Ministry summoned the Pakistani charge in Kabul to "strongly protest" a Pakistani air space violation by a Pakistani Air Force plane that made a "reconnaissance flight" over southeast Asmar, Kabul radio revealed. Afghan Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil met in Geneva with UN envoy Diego Cordovez to discuss issues related to the Geneva accords, Kabul radio reported.

## Palestinian Affairs

### 'Arafat Addresses Palestinians on 'Liberation'

*JN0709190988 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1741 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Address by PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, to the Palestinian people on the beginning of the 10th month of the uprising; place, date not given—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Truly we have granted you a manifest victory: That God may forgive you your past faults and those to follow; fulfills his favor to you; and guide you on the straight path; and that God may help you with powerful help. [Koranic verse]

O brothers who stand steadfast on the homeland's soil; O you who are bravely confronting the Zionist occupation and its evil military machine, O strugglers in the land of messages and messengers; O sons of our heroic Palestinian people in the steadfast camps and in the diaspora: With firm, faithful, and strong steps, your blessed revolutionary uprising today enters its 10th month, declaring to everyone that it is the continuous and escalating uprising until victory with God's help; until the achievement of our Palestinian people's goals of freedom, independence, dignity, pride, and peace; and until the achievment of our people's goals in ridding Palestine of occupation and returning the people's sovereign rights over their land, the land of their fathers and forefathers, the land of pure Palestine.

Your blessed uprising today enters its 10th month, O my kinfolk and beloved ones, while we affirm our positions, which we need to distribute, entrench, and consecrate in the minds of everybody—brothers, friends, and enemies. All of these meanings stand on one firm and strong foundation; that is, the people of Palestine are a living people who are worthy of a free and dignified life, worthy of independence and their appropriate place among the peoples and nations to contribute, with others, in the advancement of human civilization, where our forefathers laid the cornerstones with honor. These immortal cornerstones are represented in the civilized values, which prevail now and forever. These values were contained in the messages, which were came from the land of messages, our homeland, Palestine. These messages spread, prevailed, and became immortal. They gave life its noble value. They gave value to their prominent position and beautified life with peace and justice.

Nothing compares to the future and people of Palestine, except the history of Palestine and people of Palestine.

This is the Palestine we are seeking to achieve. My people and beloved, this is the Palstine for which we struggle. O revolutionaries, O strugglers, this is the Palestine which will triumph with God's help. O sisters and brothers, 9 months of daily heroic confrontation of the occupation; resistance to the occupation army; and confronting its bestial, prejudiced, and blind policy have brought your just cause before the eyes of the world as a current and explosive cause for which the international community is trying to find a just solution. We proclaim it, we say to it clearly and honestly: The just solution lies in guaranteeing our firm rights supported by international legitimacy, as detailed in the total United Nations resolutions, the Arab summit resolutions, and the resolutions of our Palestinian national councils.

Our struggle has not been in vain. We will not allow the efforts of our people and the martyrdom of our masses to be squandered, even if the enemy becomes haughty and arrogant and even if he persists in not recognizing the truth. The truth is stronger, the truth is stronger, because it is the Palestinian truth on the grounds of reality. This is the Palestinian truth on the grounds of reality whose genuineness is deeply rooted in the face of all types of oppression, suppression, prisons, detention camps, policies of starvation, illiteracy, scattering, deportation, demolition, and aggressions, aggressions on the holy places and sanctities, seizure of the camps in Beirut, besieging them, and attacking them by the Israelis and agents in southern Lebanon. The genuineness of the Palestinian truth is entrenching itself through the convoys of martyrs and heroes, convoys of righteous martyrs, the convoys of the heroic injured, the brave detainees, and all the strugglers fighting everywhere and on every front.

Their intention is to extinguish God's light by blowing with their mouths: But God will complete the revelation of His light, even though the unbelievers may detest it. [Koranic verse]

O Palestinians on Palestinian soil, O Palestinians in the East and the West of the earth, O children of my country, O women of my country, O men of my country, O steadfast prisoners in prisons and detention camps, O injured heroes, O steadfast strugglers in the Palestinian camps: For the sake of the our blessed and entrenched national unity we wage the battles of liberation in this intensified and comprehensive wave of our uprising, a wave of our triumphant uprising with God's help.

With the power of right and justice; with our faith and holy war; with the right of our people to life; with the future of our people and glorious Arab nation; with our sacrifices, patience, steadfastness, and confrontation of the occupation authorities' repression, oppression, and persecution, we impose changes on the political map of the region. We deal with these changes with interaction and affirmation. We plow the earth, cultivate it, and harvest it. We do not rely on the cultivation of others, nor do we allow others to harvest what we grow. Do you understand? We do not allow others to harvest what we grow. There will be no yielding, no oneupmanship, and no exaggerations; only steadiness, confidence, and capability. Experience, events, and calamities have taught our heroic people, veterans of struggle, to confront all challenges, especially as the aim of the current attempts in our arena is to make us despair. They want to make us despair, but the mountain will not be shaken by the wind. Who can make us despair? We are strong. They want to make us despair [words indistinct], forgetting or pretending to forget the Palestinian phoenix or the Palestinian griffin, which always emerges from its battles and from the glowing furnace more gigantic, powerful, and capable.

This is your organization, the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of our people [words indistinct], the leader of their struggle in this decisive stage. The people, all the people—men, women, children, elderly, and youths; workers, peasants, owners, merchants, students, and employees from all directions and trends—meet at one point, the point of continuing the struggle solidly and strongly and with relentless determination and will until the Zionist occupation ends and the dawn of freedom and liberty comes. Yes, my brothers, yes my beloved ones, with this sacred national unity, the unity of the land to which Prophet Muhammad, God's peace and blessings be upon him, journeyed and from which he ascended to heaven, and from the cradle of Christ, peace be upon Him, we wage our battle with full confidence in victory and the brilliant tomorrow. If you will aid the cause of God, He will aid you and plant your feet firmly. [Koranic verse]

With this blessed national unity, which is protected by our strong Palestinian democracy—the democracy of the forest of rifles, the democracy of the heroes of the sacred stones, the democracy of the heroic RPG children, the democracy of the people, the whole people—which forms the shield that protects our revolutionary march and forms the firm ground for our correct approach toward liberation and elimination of the occupation.

With democracy we forge resolutions; we do not forge resolutions just like that, but with democracy. With democracy we protect our march. We resort to it, and with it we triumph. We take pride in it. It is a source of our pride, and it is the guarantee of the soundness of the path, the path of struggle and holy war. For this, O my brothers and beloved ones, came the latest call for the [PLO] Central Council, and the current call for the PNC. For this also came the intensive meetings of the legal and political committee. Thus, this free and confident dialogue is taking place without fear from any idea, ideology, or position. It is a democracy, our democracy, which harbors ideas, positions, opinions, and interpretations to attain the best for the benefit of our people, march, and future, and for the benefit of the future of our children so that they can live on their free, independent soil. This is the Palestinian democracy, which is the source of our strength and pride. They conduct their affairs by mutual consultation. [Koranic verse]

This is Palestine. This is the Palestinian revolution. This is your organization, the PLO, the leader of our people's struggle and the leader of our revolutionaries.

Brothers and sisters, with the beginning of the 9th month of the uprising, Iran, officially and practically, accepted Security Council Resolution No 598. The cease-fire began on 20 May [as heard], and the negotiations began on the 25 May. On your behalf, and from the bottom of my heart, I send the warmest greetings to the fraternal Iraqi people, to their valiant Army, and to their Arab knight Saddam Husayn for their victory on the eastern gate of our Arab nation.

On your behalf, I congratulate the Iranian people on the end of this destructive war, which lasted for more than a reasonable time. But, thanks be to God, it has ended. Its end will become an important and effective factor in the developments in the Middle East region. We, the Palestinian revolutionaries, are the people who were affected most by it. We paid dearly—in blood and souls—for its eruption. Today, today, we harvest for our people, revolution, uprising, and Arab nation the new force, the new stand, the positive consequences, and the current and future reprecussions.

Brothers and sisters, the longer the uprising lasts, the shorter the life of occupation becomes. This is the living relation on the path of victory. This is the living sign on the path of victory. The path of struggle and continuation needs more sacrifices.

You, my beloved and my people, will pursue your struggle. This calls for more patience, sacrifice, and steadfastness. You have demonstrated on all levels and in terms of action and movements that you are solidly organized, that you pursue battles and confrontation. When a leader is arrested, or a mujahid is martyred, scores replace him and rise from among your ranks in a genuine and constant march to keep the banner high. O comrades in arms, when one of you falls, take his place and carry his weapon. He will not die, he will not die. He will continue to live in all those who replace him. Our hearts cherish freedom, and we are open-minded. Our policy in this world shows that we are holding the olive branch in one hand and the gun in the other. We extend one hand to a just peace, and the other carries the blessed stone.

Brothers, the enemy has lost the initiative and its might in spite of the assistance it receives from its allies and even from its agents. The enemy has lost its nerve and its equilibrium because there is nothing stronger than the people's determination. There is nothing stronger than the people's determination. The people's determination embodies free life. It is life, freedom, and independence. The people's determination will always triumph.

We tell the Zionist enemy leaders that the Palestinian people are an active people. Our Palestinian people have a sacred right. The masses of our Palestinian people are now knocking on the doors of history with their immense sacrifices and through the river of blood that never stops. We have an appointment with dawn, the dawn of freedom and the independent Palestinian state.

Brothers, beloved ones, our people, all our people, women, children, young men, and the elders of my country, our people who stand fast in our occupied territories, our people who are standing fast in our valiant camps, our revolutionaries, heroes, our valiant wounded, hero detainees [passage indistinct] vigilance and more vigilance, perseverance and more perseverance, unity and more unity, organization, organization, and more organization and sacrifices, and more sacrifices. We have an appointment with the break of dawn. We have an appointment with victory. Victory is close. [passage indistinct] Let your hearts be at rest. [passage indistinct] Glory, all the glory to our righteous martyrs. Revolution until victory. Your brother, Abu 'Ammar.

## PLO Radio Carries 'Martyrs' Call No 25

*JN0709172888 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1602 GMT 7 Sep 88*

["Call No 25, the call of the massacres' martyrs, issued by the PLO—the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising"; date, place not given—recorded]

[Text] You, O masses of our great popular uprising: Your uprising will be entering its 10th month, demonstrating further strength and determination to continue and escalate, despite all types and means of the fascist oppression, collective punitive measures, and policies based on starvation and economic siege and despite the house demolitions, the large-scale arrest campaigns, the deportations from the homeland, the bulldozing of neighborhoods, the assassination of strugglers, the destruction of property, and the long-term curfews.

Your great popular uprising has continued its daily struggle displaying great momentum and comprehensiveness on the road to destroying and dismantling the apparatus and instruments of the occupation authority and building the people's national authority represented by the people's committees and the Unified National Leadership of the Uprising. Besides, your glorious uprising, which is about to enter its 10th month, has managed to achieve further accomplishments to be added to the total of the political and militant accomplishments it has scored over its past months. The U.S. Administration, stricken by fear, has backed down on its previous decision to close down the headquarters of the PLO mission at the United Nations. Furthermore, in the wake of his meeting with Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar highlighted the the situation of the Palestinian people and territory. Moreover, the UN Security Council has once again unanimously condemned the policy of deporting Palestinians from their homeland. These accomplishments were further bolstered by the good resolutions adopted by the conference of nongovernmental organizations, which has been recently held in Geneva on the uprising, particularly the resolutions reiterating that international protection, one of the most important slogans upheld and demands made by the uprising, must be provided to the masses of our people.

Besides, the latest statements by Shomron, chief of staff of the Zionist oppression and tyranny, which emphasized once again the impossibility of ending the uprising through military means, have come to embrace statements made by the Zionist Avraham Tamir, director general of the enemy's Foreign Ministry. Tamir's statements reiterated that the PLO is the party representing the Palestinians, whether the Israelis like it or not. All this is to be added to the hysterical fear of Molotov cocktails and stones that has gripped the settlers and caused them to evacuate some settlements. Thus, the assurances provided by the terrorist Rabin and the arrogant Shamir that a greater degree of protection will be provided to the settlers and that they will be provided with a wider scope of authority to open fire with live ammunition on the citizens have proved useless.

Apart from this, we mention the gravity of the enemy's economic crisis—as seen in the daily rising numbers issued by economics and planning experts in the Zionist ministries. O masses of our heroic people, the sly attempts of the occupation authorities to execute the transfer [preceding word in English] policy through what it terms temporary deportation—which dictates deporting the strugglers from their land for varying periods of time and imposes the condition that they sign pledges not to carry out any struggle role and to ensure peace in their regions so that they can retuen to their land and country—is considered an obvious infringement and shameful violation of the Geneva agreements on occupied territories. They do not differ in essence and form from the deportation policy condemned by the Security Council and the whole world. The Unified National Leadership asks our masses to confront this policy.

O sons of our heroic people, as you are these days bitterly remembering the massacres of Black September, Sabra, and Shattila, which harvested tens of thousands of our people's sons in the diaspora and which came to complement what was started in the Dayr Yasin, Qibya, Al-Dawayimah, and Kafr Qasim massacres with the aim of eliminating and obliterating the special national identity of our people, you are now declaring to your butchers resonantly: You have disgraced yourselves. You will reap only the shame of history and the curse of humanity. We are more solid, courageous, and powerful than ever before. We always used to emerge from your slaughters and massacres with raised heads, towering above the wounds, and continued the march sarted by our predecessors lead by the struggler Shaykh al-Qassam and 'Abd al-Qadir al- Husayni.

Our struggling masses, the Unified National Leadership along with the masses of the occupied territories, while praising the wise decisions of the PLO on paying employees' salaries that Jordan had halted and the honest decision made by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi on this issue, directs itself to the leading figures of the Algiers summit and appeals to them to be faithful to their political, financial, and media commitments toward the uprising, the PLO and the Palestine question.

The Unified National Leadership of the Uprising also greets the PNC in its extraordinary session. It affirms the importance of adopting political resolutions defined on a national Palestinian basis and the mobilizing of all potentials to safeguard and promote the achievements of the uprising and the revolution to achieve our people's national rights to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent state on our national soil under the PLO.

O masses of the uprising and its strike teams: The Unified National Leadership is proud of the march of the 20,000 who walked in the lofty streets of Gaza, challenging the curfew, the masses of Nabulus who entrenched this phenomenon, and the striking teams in Yattah, who carried out the judgment of the people against those who sold themselves to the occupation and betrayed their people and homeland. This leadership urges our masses to understand the following aspects and work accordingly in their daily struggle:

The United Nations and the international community: The Unified National Leadership calls on the United Nations, the UN Security Council, and all international organizations to intervene immediately to stop the [Israeli] authorities' violations of international norms, charters, and laws and to provide international protection for our people from all forms of brutality, annihilation, and rabid campaigns against their existence. The Unified National Leadership also calls for UN supervision over the occupied territory until the achievement of an Israeli withdrawal and the convening of a fully empowered international conference with the participation of the PLO through an independent delegation on an equal footing [with the other parties].

Regarding the closure of institutions and societies: After closing institutions, colleges, universities, and unions, the occupation authorities closed many institutions and societies, including welfare societies, particularly in the wake of the legal and administrative disengagement with the Palestinian Bank. The Unified National Leadership believes that this closure mirrors the sensitivity of the occupation authorities toward any existing Palestinian institutions because they see in them a part of the Palestinian people's and state's authority. We call on all our institutions, societies, and unions to abort the decisions of closure by continuing to assume their tasks despite the closure.

On education: As the authorities continue to close all educational institutions within the framework of the policy of stultifying our people, the Unified National Leadership calls on our masses to struggle for the reopening of these institutions. Our students should not leave the homeland in search of education at this stage. We appeal to UNESCO and all Arab and international bodies to raise this important subject at the highest levels, including the UN Security Council, because depriving a people of education is a barbaric measure violating one of the most important basic human rights guaranteed by international charters and norms, headed by the world declaration of human rights and the Fourth Geneva Convention. Within this framework, we stress the importance of consolidating and developing popular education, which is the most effective practical reply to the Zionist policy of stultification.

Concerning the popular committees: The Unified National Leadership stresses the importance of continuing to build the people's independent authority along the road of independence and freedom and calls on our masses to participate in this process on a larger scale because this alone will foil both the authorities' decision to ban this activity and the rabid repressive campaign against it, a campaign that is basically aimed at making our masses fear these committees and at isolating them and facilitating a strike against them.

Regarding the issue of pursuing agents: The Unified National Leadership praises the striking teams, the nucleus of the popular committees, for pursuing agents in Yattah, Hebron, 'Illar, Janin camp, Qabatiyah, Biddiya, Al-Jalazun, Jabalyah, Dayr al-Balah, and elsewhere and for carrying out the sentence of the uprising and people against some of them. It calls on the striking teams to continue to cleanse the internal front from the filth of those who sold themselves and their honor to the occupation authorities, betraying their people and homeland.

On the fascist horsemen: The Unified National Leadership calls on our masses in Jerusalem, the capital of our Palestinian state, to strongly confront the attacks of the fascist horsemen and policemen on those farmers who display their food products at Damascus Gate and Herod's Gate in order to earn their living by selling what they have grown throughout the year. They are beaten up by these horsemen who then destroy their products or unhesitatingly feed them to their horses within the sight of the farmers.

Regarding moneychangers: The Unified National Leadership of the uprising calls on moneychangers to desist from sowing confusion in the state of affairs and refrain from disseminating rumors or assisting in creating a state of panic among the masses, as was the case in the past few days when many citizens gambled with the savings they had amassed through arduous work by exchanging the dinars they held for dollars. All those who contribute to this state of panic intentionally or unintentionally assist in the squandering of our people's savings by the Israeli and U.S. banks.

Concerning the merchants: The Unified National Leadership calls on our valiant merchants to form more merchants' committees and to develop and activate the existing committees to enhance the boycott of taxes, collectively confront the barbarism of the tax collectors, and enhance the economic boycott of the enemy. This has been explained in detail by the statement issued by the merchants committee in the occupied Palestinian territories. We also call on our valiant merchants in the

Gaza Strip not to respond to the orders of the Army and the authorities insisting they must place placards on the doors of their shops containing detailed information on the merchant, his home address, and other details.

On sidewalk vendors: The Unified National Leadership calls for regulating the manifestation of sidewalk vendors by having them respect the opening and closing hours of businesses as the continuation of the manifestation of sidewalk vendors in some areas throughout the day somewhat undermines the merchants partial strike. We call on the strike forces to regulate this operation.

Concernign tenants' rents: We ask landlords to reduce by at least 25 percent the rents they receive from their tenants. We call on the tenants to start implementing this and immediately pay what is due without procrastination.

Masses of the uprising and their strike forces, the Unified National Leadership expresses pity for the Israelis for the increasing state of disarray that prevails among their leaders as a result of the escalation of our people's uprising, a disarray which is seen in the recent call by the fascist Sharon to deport the families of the stonethrowers, and the call by Arens to ban the Palestinians from walking on sidewalks to avoid the volley of stones, as well as the green light that has been given to the settlers' gangs to open fire on Palestinian citizens in reply to the volley of stones. The Unified National Leadership addresses these Israelis and others by saying: Why do you seek to avoid reality and try to hide from the sun? You know that the resolution to the problem of the stones and other problems can only take place through your withdrawal from our territory, and the recognition of our legitimate national rights, including our right to self-determination, and the establishment of our independent state and not through idle talk, quarrelsome behavior, and repression.

As the Unified National Leadership salutes the Palestinian arms that gave the stonethrowing the connotation of revolution and struggle, it asks these arms to hurl even more stones and Molotov cocktails at the enemy forces and settlers everywhere and always. It calls on its people execute these activities on the following:

1. On 8 September, a day of general strike on the occasion of the uprising's concluding its 9th month and preparing to enter its 10th month with great vigor.

2. On 10 September, a day of solidarity with our societies, unions, and institutions that have been closed down by sit-ins outside their headquarters.

3. On 13 September, on the occasion of Abu 'Ammar's [Yasir 'Arafat] meeting with the Council of Europe, which will convene in Strasbourg, a day where sit- ins will be organized outside the European consulates in Jerusalem and memorandums will be sent to their governments calling on them to work toward providing international protection and supervision of the occupied territories.

4. On 15 September, a day of campaigns to purify our internal fronts from the filth of the agents and traitors and to pressure those who have not resigned to submit their resignations.

5. On 17 September, a day of general strike commemorating the Black September, Sabra, and Shatila massacres' martyrs and the martyrs of all massacres to which our people have been subjected.

6. On 18 September, a day for daily [as heard] confrontational activities rejecting what is being done against our people.

7. On 22 September, on the occasion of declaring the government of all Palestine in 1948, a day for entrenching the people's power and establishing more popular committees on the path to declaring the full independence of our precious state.

8. On 26 September, a day of general strike in solidarity with the detainees and protest against the existence of Ansar III.

Together on the path of intensification and struggle until we realize the national ambitions of our people in liberty and independence, we will certainly triumph.

[Signed] PLO-Unified National Leadership of the Uprising

## Assassination Attempt on 4 Palestinians 'Foiled'

*JN0709114588 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 9 Sep 88*

[Text] A prominent Palestinian source said today that the Palestinian security organs foiled an attempt by Mosad to assassinate four Palestinian cadres in Cyprus last Wednesday.

Today's AL-ITTIHAD quotes the source as saying that an explosive charge was found in a car that was to take the four Palestinians from a hotel to Larnaca Airport. The explosive charge was defused before the car moved. The newspaper said that the source refused to give the names of the four Palestinians, but he said that they were on their way to an Arab capital from Tunis via Cyprus.

## Khalaf on Need for 'New Diplomatic Offensive'

*NC0709110088 Paris AFP in English 1046 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 7 (AFP)—A senior Palestinian official on Wednesday said the time had come for a new diplomatic offensive by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

"We are facing a stage where announcement of a decisive initiative is inevitable to match the (Palestinian) uprising and Jordan's decision to cut links with the West Bank," Salah Khalaf, a senior aide to PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, told the newspaper AL-BAYAN.

Mr Khalaf, also known as Abu Iyad, said the Palestinian leaders had not yet reached a decision on setting up a government-in-exile, but he added that there was consensus on the need for an initiative.

"There is hesitation on the extent and direction of this initiative," Mr Khalaf was quoted by the Dubayy based daily as saying in Tunis.

"We have to admit that we do not have much time and waiting is against our interest," he said.

He said all United Nations resolutions, including the "partition" resolution, Number 181, were being considered by the PLO.

The 1947 resolution provides for the establishment of Israeli and Palestinian states in Israel and the West Bank and Gaza. The two latter territories were captured by Israel in 1967.

"In this resolution we face an important question: Should we accept Israel or eliminate it... The answer requires a political decision that touches the conscience of the Arab people," Mr Khalaf said.

"On the other hand we should ask ourselves: Do we want a state or not... And since our people have suffered for decades I think it is time to do something."

Mr Khalaf said the Palestinians had been forced to consider a new initiative following Jordan's July 31 decision to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank, which it controlled until 1967.

"I think this phase will force Israel, especially the Labour Party, to change its attitude towards the Jordanian option," he added.

The Labour Party had for years counted on King Husayn of Jordan to serve as a spokesman and representative of West Bank and Gaza Palestinians in peace talks.

Mr Khalaf confirmed that the Palestine National Council, or parliament-in-exile, would meet in the first week of October. But he said the venue for the gathering—either Algiers or Tunis—had not been decided.

The PNC is to discuss the establishment of a provisional Palestinian government.

## Intifadah Ideologist on Middle East Conflict

*AU0709130188 Vienna Television Service in German 1010 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Interview with Sa'ib Erakat, professor of political science at Nablus University and "ideologist of Intifadah," by Austrian television reporter Hans Benedict; date and place not given—recorded in English with superimposed German translation; boldface indicates portions audible in English that differ from German translation]

[Text] [Erakat] **f the Israeli leadership would dare** to recognize the new reality we have established over the past 9 months, the economic, social, and political changes, then the Israeli leadership would recognize that intifadah **has all the ingredients of survival.** A total of 1.5 million Palestinians have learned **how to say no to the Israeli intimidation and occupation.** The solution of the conflict, however, depends on the United States and on the Soviet Union. We are stuck with the two superpowers, whether we like it or not, and we Palestinians believe that at this stage of the conflict a U.S.-Soviet agreement would be decisive for us. **I think this is the only realistic way** toward an independent Palestinian state.

[Benedict] Does this mean that now a future Palestinian state already has a government that you have established underground, **within the occupied territories**?

[Erakat] Today we already have a small government in every city district and in every rural district. These are our popular committees, which are responsible for all important spheres of life—for food and welfare, for those injured during the unrest, for education, the formation of political awareness, and for national unity. **In each neighborhood, now, in every (?bank), town, village, and refugee camp** there are what we call popular committees.

[Benedict] Will the rebels use the weapons stored in secret places at some time?

[Erakat] PLO Chairman 'Arafat called on the Palestinians in the occupied territories **not to use weapons, and his words are magic in the West Bank.** Now, with increasing frequency, we hear our people ask **why should the Palestinians be the only ones to be sent to the graveyard? If we are dying why should we not take someone else with us?** I think that if this situation continues as it is, without a solution that is acceptable to us, it will be demonstrated that **what we have seen in the past 9 months is only the tip of the iceberg.**

## Algeria

### President Receives Syria's Al-Shar'

*JN0609171588 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1550 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Algiers, 6 Sep (SANA)—Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid received here today Faruq al-Shar', Syrian minister of foreign affairs, and Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the Libyan People's Congress for Foreign Liaison. The meeting was attended by Algerian Foreign Ministrer Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi and Director of the Presidential Office Larbi Belkheir.

Following the meeting, Al-Shar' said: During the meeting, I conveyed President Hafiz al-Asad's greetings to his brother, President Chadli Bendjedid. We also exchanged views on the latest regional developments as well as coordinated among ourselves on issues of interest to our Arab nation, especially since the nonaligned countries' foreign ministers will hold a conference and the UN General Assembly will hold a session.

Al-Shar' added: I can say that we are very satisfied with the meeting. Our three countries and our political leadership had identical views, we agreed to promote fraternal relations among our countries, and we are determined to continue our contacts and strengthen the fraternal relations among our countries.

Faruq al-Shar', Syrian minister of foreign affairs; Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, Algerian minister of foreign affairs; and Jadallah 'Azzuz al-Talhi, secretary of the Libyan People's Congress for Foreign Liaison, held a meeting at the Algerian Foreign Ministry this morning. During the meeting, they discussed the current situation in the Arab arena and ways to promote brotherly contacts and relations among the three Arab countries.

## Egypt

### Mubarak Says Shatt al-'Arab 'Always' Iraqi

*NC0709181588 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak returned to Cairo from Baghdad tonight. Immediately after his arrival, the president announced that Shatt al-'Arab had always belonged to Iraq but that freedom of navigation had been observed there since the 1847 agreement, which is similar to the case of the Suez Canal.

Prime Minister Dr 'Atif Sidqi and Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, met the president at Cairo airport.

### Southern Sudan Delegation Head Meets Mubarak

*NC0509133788 Cairo MENA in English 1156 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, Sept 5 (MENA)—Eliaba James Surur, chairman of the Sudanese Progressive People's Party, expressed his appreciation of aid offered by Egypt to Sudan.

Following a meeting with President Husni Mubarak, Surur said that he and his accompanying delegation came to Egypt as representatives of the Sudanese parliament opposition and had talks with President Mubarak on developments in Sudan and future relations between the two countries as well as Sudan's internal problems at the present time.

Surur expressed his strong rejection of unity with Libya and said that Sudan has many problems and has no time for unity with it.

### Meets 'Abd al-Majid

*NC0409194988 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Sep (MENA)—Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, met today with the southern Sudanese party delegation currently visiting Cairo under the leadership of Eliaba James Surur, leader of the People's Progressive Party and spokesman of the southern Sudanese parties bloc.

Surur expressed his gratitude to President Husni Mubarak and the Egyptian people for the aid they have extended to Sudan since the recent tragedy. He said that Egypt was the first state to offer aid to the Sudanese people.

The Sudanese delegation explained the situation in Sudan, saying it is normal now, and conditions in southern Sudan. The delegation stressed that Egypt must continue its positive and vital role in the efforts to establish peace in the south.

The Sudanese delegation arrived in Cairo this morning for a visit of several days. It includes representatives of the Political Grouping, Federal Party, People's Progressive Party, and the Sudanese Patriotic Party.

### Sudanese Foreign Affairs Official Arrives

*JN0409160688 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1452 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Sep (SUNA)—Taj al-Sirr Muhammad Salih, minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived here today on a 1-day visit to Egypt. He will then leave for Cyprus as head of the Sudanese delegation to the nonaligned foreign ministers conference there.

## 'Abd al-Majid Leaves for Nonaligned Conference

*NC0609092288 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, left Cairo for Cyprus this morning to lead Egypt's delegation to the nonaligned foreign ministers conference, which is to open tomorrow. Dr 'Abd al-Majid stated that the conference will discuss the Palestinian issue, the situations in the Gulf, Afghanistan, and southern Africa, and the problem of foreign debts. He said that the conference will provide the opportunity to hold a series of contacts with heads of the participating delegations, as well as to discuss the main topics on the conference agenda and events in the international arena.

## Military Industry Official Leaves for Talks in UK

*NC0409085388 Cairo MENA in English 0831 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, Sept. 4 (MENA)—Board Chairman of the Arab Organization for Industrialisation (AOI) Lieutenant General Ibrahim al-'Urabi left here this morning for Britain on a three-day visit. He is due to have talks with officials at Rolis Royce and British Aerospace on joint ventures being carried out by the AOI and the two British firms. He will also attend an exhibition of aircraft and modern related equipment.

## Police, Fundamentalists Clash on 2 Sep

*NC0609091288 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Egyptian police have said that two Muslim fundamentalists were killed and about 26 people were wounded in clashes last Friday between fundamentalists and police in Dayr Mawas, Upper Egypt. A hospital source said that the injured, who include 10 policemen, were slightly wounded.

## IMF Delegation Discusses Long-Term Loan

*NC0609145588 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1243 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 6 Sep (MENA)—Members of the economic group held a meeting today with an IMF delegation led by Deputy Managing Director Paul Chabrier currently visiting Cairo. On the agenda was an Egyptian request for a long-term loan to help the Egyptian balance of payments, in accordance with an agreement Egypt and the IMF expected to sign at the conclusion of the current talks.

Dr Yusri Mustafa, minister of economy and foreign trade; Muhammad al-Razzaz, finance minister; and Dr Salah Hamid, governor of the Central Bank, attended the meeting.

An official economic source has said that during meetings held between Egypt and IMF over the past 3 days, Egypt requested the IMF issue a new letter of intention enabling Egypt to renew its negotiations with creditor countries concerning its debts which will mature between July 1988 and July 1989.

MENA has learned that the IMF delegation expressed its preliminary approval to grant Egypt the letter of intention.

Dr Hamid is expected to visit Paris in late September to meet representatives of the Western creditor countries of the Paris Club.

Meanwhile, the IMF delegation has expressed its satisfaction with the economic measures Egypt has recently taken to stabilize the exchange rate, reduce the budget deficit, and increase and streamline imports. The IMF delegation was briefed on the progress of the 5-year plan since its inception last year as well as on projects which have been launched and will be completed during the plan.

The delegation will pass its observations on to IMF officials when the current talks end.

## AL-WAFD on IMF Talks

*JN0709154388 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 6 Sep 88 p 1*

[By Jamal Shawqi]

[Text] The government is currently exerting intensive efforts to convince the IMF to intervene with world financial institutions to grant Egypt urgent loans totaling $1 billion. Egypt has undertaken contacts and consultations with world financial institutions over the past months and obtained their agreement in principle to the loans. However, these financial institutions have set as a condition IMF approval of these loans, which will be used in some electricity and energy projects and to complete some industrial projects.

The government resumed its negotiations with the IMF yesterday to discuss rescheduling debts to creditor countries. The government briefed the IMF on the details of the negotiations with the creditor countries and proposed several new conditions to be incorporated in the new letter of intent to avoid the recurrence of problems that arose during the negotiations with the creditor countries. The government complained about all the creditor countries for their not abiding by the agreements stipulating the payment of $800 million to Egypt to allow it to tackle the results of the economic reform measures. The government said that it did not receive this sum, which forced it to postpone some economic reform measures. The government also complained against some creditor countries that did not abide by some provisions of the Paris Club agreement on rescheduling debts and insisted on payment of installments that had come due. This forced the Egyptian Goverment to borrow from some fraternal countries. Egypt is expected to ask for amendments to some clauses of the agreements on debt rescheduling whereby creditor countries will show more flexibility.

### AL-SHA'B on Expanded U.S. Financial 'Campaign'

*PM0709140788 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Aug 88 pp 1-2*

[Fikri 'Abd al-Muttalib report: "U.S. Campaign Against Egypt Within International Finance Organizations Expands"]

[Text] The campaign the United States is launching within various regional and international finance and development organizations has expanded in a frantic U.S. attempt to force the government to accept IMF conditions, thus prompting President Mubarak to admit that he will have to accept some of these conditions to ensure the flow of foreign loans.

Responsible sources told AL-SHA'B that Egypt has submitted strongly worded protests to the U.S. Government via diplomatic channels expressing its resentment of U.S. behavior toward a friendly state. This was after the U.S. representative at a meeting held by the board of directors of the African Bank for Development opposed granting a loan totaling $280 million to finance the development of the west Cairo power station.

The sources confirmed that the U.S. representative did not refrain from voting when the loan issue was raised, as some daily government papers reported, but actually voted openly and separately against granting the loan. Whereas the representatives of some industrialized European states refused to share the American representative's position: They voted in favor.

In this regard, a responsible economic source speaking to AL-SHA'B refuted what has been said about the United States' waiver of Egyptian debts totaling 289 million pounds payable in Egyptian pounds, emphasizing that there are no Egyptian debts in local currency owed to the United States and that the Egyptian debts owed to the United States from the beginning of July to the middle of this year were rescheduled within the Paris Club last May; these totaled $41 million.

At another level, AL-SHA'B has learned that the White House Office of Management and Budget has suspended the sums relating to the aid program for electricity and energy projects, which amount to $133 million, until the [Egyptian] Government announces new increases in electricity and energy prices in accordance with what was agreed between Egypt and the World Bank, which froze a loan for the electricity and energy sector totaling $800 million because of the government's refusal to raise prices.

### Lutfi Cited on Press Freedom, Paper's Closure

*NC0409164388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1549 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 4 Sep (MENA)—Dr 'Ali Lutfi, Consultative Council speaker and chairman of the Higher Press Council, has stressed President Husni Mubarak's concern about press freedom and his hesitation to confiscate any newspaper. This was stated by Labor Party leader Engineer Ibrahim Shukri following his meeting with Dr 'Ali Lutfi today. He said that during his meeting with Lutfi the latter stressed that the measures taken against a certain newspaper were in accordance with the law. Shukri said that we all respect the judiciary and its laws. He noted that the Labor Party's views are clear and that it is inadmissible to abuse any Arab head of state. He said that during his meeting with Lutfi they discussed the circumstances that led to the confiscation of a certain paper, dissolution of the society that published it, and the questioning of its chief editor.

### Opposition Leader Comments

*JN0709090688 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 5 Sep 88 p 1*

[By Jamal Yunis]

[Text] Engineer Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party, has affirmed that the confiscation of the newspaper SAWT AL-'ARAB is still being studied by the competent authorities, although Dr 'Ali Lutfi, chairman of the Higher Press Council, has asserted that the publishing house of the newspaper was dissolved in accordance with the law.

The leaders of the opposition parties held a meeting at the opposition headquarters in the People's Assembly yesterday to discuss measures to confront the decision to confiscate SAWT AL-'ARAB and the consequent detraction from the freedom of the press. The meeting was attended by Fu'ad Siraj al-Din, leader of the Al-Wafd Party; Engineer Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party; Khalid Muhyi al-Din, leader of the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party; Mustafa Kamil Murad, leader of Socialist Liberals Party; and Ahmad al-Sabahi, leader of the Al-Umah Party. During the meeting, the opposition leaders also denounced the newspaper's conduct and its attack on some Arab leaders. Following the meeting, Engineer Ibrahim Shukri was authorized by the opposition leaders to meet with Dr 'Ali Lutfi to convey the views of the opposition leaders to him.

### AL-WAFD on Al-Qadhdhafi's 'Strange Speech'

*JN0609091588 Cairo AL-WAFD in Arabic 4 Sep 88 p 1*

[Editorial by Editor in Chief Mustafa Shardi: "A Word to Libyan Leader Al-Qadhdhafi"]

[Text] The Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi sits at the head of a fraternal and dear Arab state. We wish that he would try to be guided by the principle we advocate, which is not to attack heads of state. However, the man always insists in his behavior and statements on moving away from such guidance. There is no doubt he has an outstanding ability to antagonize and provoke others. It is as if he enjoys the media battles which he constantly provokes over totally marginal issues. These battles preoccupy a wounded nation that has been stabbed by many spears and threatened from every direction and distract its attention from its most important causes, foremost among which are continued Arab survival in a world that is more like a jungle and the issue of bringing together the parts of the great homeland that have been shattered by numerous conflicts, in the hope that we will have the opportunity to look forward to a better future.

I often read some of what the Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi says or listen to excerpts of the constant shouting that emanates from the Libyan radio, and I smile every time. His remarks and statements always suggest that the man is far removed from the conditions and worries of the Arab world. However, the strange speech made by the Libyan leader 2 days ago is truly astonishing—it arouses more astonishment than anger or indignation.

We are not about to discuss all the contents of the speech. The Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi attacked most of the Arab leaders and countries, but each country has its own press that is capable of replying to him. However, there are some points that affect Egypt, its people, and its president. We cannot allow these points to pass without pause and without making the Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi himself pause; we must say something.

First of all, I want to emphasize that Al-Qadhdhafi's attacks no longer provoke anger or condemnation. People who are interested in what he says are tired of becoming angry and are tired of condemning what he says. His statements merely cause smiles—the best comment on the Libyan leader's speech. I also want to emphasize that I am not criticizing or attacking him, but I feel it is my duty as an Egyptian citizen and as an Arab citizen to discuss some of what he says, particularly as Al-Qadhdhafi has allowed himself to interfere in Egypt's internal affairs in a clearly hostile manner.

The Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi announced he will seek to help the Egyptian opposition with the aim of ousting the existing regime. We reject such talk from the Libyan leader or from anyone else. We truly and strongly differ with the ruling party in Egypt. We also differ with President Husni Mubarak himself over many points. However, such differences in viewpoint are always within the national framework, and the principal objective is Egypt's higher interests. Al-Qadhdhafi's belief that there are agents among the Egyptian opposition whomhe can use for his own purposes is a big insult to us in the Egyptian opposition. We reject such an insult and call upon the Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi to withdraw it and apologize. We are Egyptians loyal to our country, O Colonel, and our national efforts are not for hire or sale. The help to which you refer will not be accepted by a single Egyptian citizen. If we collude with you or with others in any way, we will not deserve to be citizens of this country. The scaffold is a thousand times dearer to us than subjugating our national efforts to your help and whims and participating in conspiring against Egypt. Your words, O Colonel, are the best proof that you do not know anything about Egypt and do not at all understand its people. Second, I want to discuss the offensive remarks which the Libyan leader Al-Qadhdhafi addressed to President Mubarak, the president of the biggest country in the Arab world and Africa and the most important state in the Middle East.

At first I was hesitant to raise the issue. It occurred to me that someone might imagine that I am currying favor with President Mubarak. However, people know, and President Mubarak himself knows, that my pen does not curry favor with anyone and does not write a word that is not dictated by the country's interests.

I almost left the task to my colleagues in the government newspapers. However, the remarks addressed by Al-Qadhdhafi to Egypt's president hurt and pained me as an Egyptian citizen who completely rejects any insult to his country's president.

Husni Mubarak, O Colonel, is a man who refuses to sell his homeland to anyone,, and to you that is his greatest sin. However, for us, it is one of his best virtues. If President Mubarak does not direct any abuse or insults at you, that is not a sign of weakness; nor does it mean he fears you. It is a position we had hoped you would understand, a stand that reflects the desire of Egypt's president to have better Arab relations that are free of abuse, vituperation, and the exchange of accusations of treason and agentry. I do not think anyone doubts that Mubarak has truly succeeded in that. The man has withstood offensive media campaigns, never uttering a word of abuse against the president or leader of a fraternal Arab state.

Husni Mubarak is also a man who allows his country a measure of freedom and democracy that enable us to differ with him, criticize his decisions, and sometimes be sharp with him; yet we return home without an officer's knocking on our door with an arrest order and without hearing a caution or a warning. Can any Libyan citizen criticize you, declare an opinion opposed to your sacred views, or whisper a word about the bad conditions in fraternal Libya? I leave the answer to you.

You then say that 1 million Libyans are now carrying arms to protect Libya's coasts. Allow me to say, O Colonel, that if you were to hand over weapons to only 10,000 Libyans, I doubt very much if the situation in fraternal Libya would remain as it is, not even for a single day. Is that not so?

### AL-AHRAM on Libyan Call for Unity With Sudan

*NC0709082188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0610 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep 8 (MENA)—As usual, the Libyan authorities have misinterpreted the situation in Sudan, AL-AHRAM writes. They believe that because floods have hit the brotherly country, it will become easy prey for their greed. The Libyans also believe that because the Sudanese Government is a coalition of two parties, they have an opportunity to use one as a spearhead against the other for the sake of whims which aim to fragment the Arab nation, the paper adds.

In its editorial today, AL-AHRAM writes that it is evident that despite its sufferings as a result of the catastrophic floods, Sudan is more committed to its principles and more firm in its stand. These attempts, the paper says, are too clear and too naive. The policy of axes and blocs is an obsolete one, the paper says.

AL-AHRAM cites several Sudanese officials on the Libyan-Sudanese unity statement, saying that Sudan believes that it is not a suitablenow to discuss unity plans. Besides, the paper adds, the country's current conditions call for balanced relations, unbiased toward any axis or bloc.

AL-AHRAM concludes that it goes without saying that now is the time for the Arab nation to help the brotherly country through its ordeal and to defer other matters until their time comes.

### AL-AKHBAR Decries 'Furor' Over Tamir Statement

*NC0409060888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2055 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 3 Sep (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AKHBAR denounces the artificial furor raised by the leaders of the Israeli Likud bloc, chiefly Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, over the statement by Israeli Foreign Ministry Director General Avraham Tamir during his visit to Washington in which he said that the PLO is the actual representative of the Palestinian people.

In an editorial appearing Sunday, the paper remarks that the stand of Shamir and his comrades who cling to obsolete, nonexistent ideas and insist on refusing to recognize the PLO's legitimacy or to hold any talks with it, is like the stand of someone who denies the presence of the sun in the sky because he has lost the ability to see it. The paper notes that such a position only meets with derision and denunciation.

The paper questions whether the demand for Tamir's dismissal as a punishment for his stating an actual fact known and accepted by the entire world would cancel the PLO's existence and its representation of the Palestinian people.

AL-AKHBAR asserts that Tamir is not the only one among Israel's leaders who knows this fact, and if this man has found the courage to announce it openly and loudly in Washington with its large Zionist den, there are also those who declare it inside Israel itself or at least in private conversations.

The paper expresses astonishment at Shamir's claim that Israel is willing to contribute to peace efforts in the Middle East at a time when he refuses to sit down face to face with the representatives of the original issue.

### Paper Commends Peres' Position on Peace Process

*NC0509205788 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2045 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 5 Sep (MENA)—AL-AHRAM has praised the stand of Shim'on Peres, Israeli acting prime minister and foreign minister. Peres has declared that he will no longer participate in a national coalition government which rejects peace with the Arabs. AL-AHRAM adds that Peres said in statement published by the British newspaper THE OBSERVER that he will not join any government that says no to the peace process.

In its editorial which will appear tomorrow, Tuesday, AL-AHRAM points out that Peres maintained in his statements that he wishes to hold negotiations with Palestinians who recognize UN Security Council Resolution 242. Peres expressed the Labor Party's readiness to exchange land for peace and accept a timetable to achieve a lasting, peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict. AL-AHRAM goes on to say that this clear stand, accepted by some 50 percent of the Israeli public, is very close to the PLO's stand as expressed by Bassam Abu Sharif, the political adviser of Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat.

### Authorities Turn Back 175 Israeli Tourists

*NC0609093188 Beirut AL-SHIRA' in Arabic 29 Aug 88 p 5*

[Text] An Israeli tourist group consisting of 175 Zionist tourists has been denied entry into Cairo by the Egyptian authorities. The airport authorities were suspicious of some "female tourists" who were expelled from Cairo in 1987 after being caught in September of that year with a group of young Egyptian men in a third-class hotel in the Al-'Atabah District.

It is worth noting that the Egyptian quarantine authorities have issued new regulations which ban Israeli female tourists from entering Egypt unless they obtain health certificates proving that they are free of diseases, particularly AIDS.

### AL-AKHBAR Assails Paper's Attack on Saudis

*JN0709092888 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 29 Aug 88 p 1*

[Article by Musa Sabri: "An Abortive Sabotage Attempt!"]

[Text] An Arab diplomat whose friendship I have been proud of for a long time said to me: Will you be angry if I comment on the conduct of an Egyptian journalist whom I saw in Saudi Arabia. He was invited by the Saudi governemnt to perform the minor pilgrimage. During his visit and during the period he received hospitality he seemed happy and pleased.

I asked: What is your comment?

He said: I recently read an article by him attacking Saudi Arabia.

I replied: His acceptance of the invitation does not mean that he should come back and sing in praise. He may have a political view that differs with a Saudi government political view, and views are not sanctioned, notwithstanding amity and friendship.

The Arab diplomat said to me: If it were so, I would not have had a comment. The journalist wrote attacking the family of King 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud. It was a personal attack in which he referred to women. It was slander and abuse. He included such abuse and slander among lines in which he sought to confirm that Israeli aircraft violated Saudi airspace.

I asked: What has the aircraft incident, which was denied in a Saudi official statement, got to do with the abuse and slander of the Saudi family?

The Arab diplomat answered: That is what puzzles me. I do not want to accuse anyone unjustly, but I hear that the article was written for the head of an Arab state known for his personal hostility to the Saudi royal family and also known for his extreme enmity toward Egypt.

I said: I am not interested in what is being said. What is more important for me is that what was written should not have been deliberately intended to harm relations between Egypt and Saudi Arabia at a time when good relations have reached their peak, and at a time when we are awaiting the Saudi monarch's visit to Egypt. A few days ago I heard President Mubarak speaking at a youth camp in Abi Qir in which he talked about the good Egyptian-Saudi relations, paying tribute to King Fahd's honorable Arab stand toward Egypt, and urging the Egyptian press to support these close relations.

I then asked: In what newspaper was such deliberate slander published?

He replied: It is a newspaper with a very limited circulation. However, I raised the issue so that you will know there are malicious currents that try to poison Egypt's Arab relations after Mubarak has succeeded in improving these relations.

I said to my friend the Arab diplomat: I agree with you. That is a logical supposition and a reality. What is strange is that some of those who donned the opposition garb in Egypt had called for the restoration of good relations with the Arab states, and when Mubarak achieved that we found that some of those who donned the opposition garb are seeking to undermine these relations. However, I believe the Saudi government is aware of all that.

My interlocutor said: That is true. However, I imagined that I will not find such currents—that are led by an Arab leader whom we all know—in the Egyptian press which we respect and appreciate and hold above suspicion.

I said: Democracy in Egypt uncovers all malicious tampering and exposes what is hidden. Ultimately, only what is right is right. I do not imagine that rash words in an immature newspaper by an unknown writer can undermine our relations with Saudi Arabia. However, I ask: Why did Saudi Arabia extend an invitation and hospitality to that journalist?

He replied: I do not know. Perhaps they are not aware of what influences him and what he represents. However, I know that he accepted the invitation gladly, enjoyed the hospitality, and then resorted to abuse and slander.

Thus my discussion ended with the friendly Arab diplomat, who is not a Saudi but a lover of Egypt and the Egyptian press. He was among the diplomats with the greatest enthusiasm for the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations. Indeed, he considers himself, in view of his Egyptian education and numerous social relations with many Egyptians, to be one of Egypt's sons who appreciates its leading role in the Arab struggle.

I was surprised to see an Arab friend more concerned for protecting and safeguarding relations between Egypt and the Arab states, while an Egyptian writer—regardless of his insignificance in the press—is seeking to destroy these relations.

There is no room here to resort to the excuse of having a political stand or freedom of expression. What was published by that journalist—if it is correct to call him a journalist—is personal defamation and a violation of the sanctity of the most elementary Arab traditions. It is contrary to the code of ethics which Egyptian journalists laid down and observed out of respect for their profession and mission.

## 'Well-Integrated' PLO Political Action Urged

*NC0409060388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2050 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 3 Sep (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM urges the PLO to translate the uprising into precise and well-integrated political action. It says that the PLO must also achieve a high level of political mobilization and conceptual unity so that it may be possible to choose the most appropriate circumstances for proclaiming a Palestinian state.

In an editorial appearing in Sunday's edition, the paper urges Palestinians outside the occupied territories to unite in their objectives and goals and exploit all possibilities in the most expeditious manner.

The paper asserts that current political moves, which it describes as positive, are a credit both to the Palestinian people's uprising in the occupied territories and to Jordanian monarch King Husayn's responsiveness to the goals of this uprising, evidenced by his announcing the severance of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank while at the same time affirming his continued support for the brothers in the occupied territories.

The paper notes that among the current positive moves are the U.S. Government's refraining from any exceptional measures against a federal court ruling confirming the legitimacy of the PLO's UN mission and a statement by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar describing the West Bank and Gaza Strip as "the land of Palestine." The paper remarks that all these indications will gradually prepare the international scene to accept the proclamation of a Palestinian state in accordance with the 1947 partition resolution.

## 'New Details' on Alleged Plot To Kill 'Arafat

*PM0709140188 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Aug 88 p 1*

[Mahmud Bakri report: "New Details on Plot To Assassinate 'Arafat in Algiers"]

[Text] Well-informed Arab sources have revealed new dimensions in the Zionist plot to assassinate the Palestinian leader, Yasir 'Arafat, in Algeria prior to the convening of the PNC.

The sources said that four Arab citizens of Lebanese nationality have been assigned to carry out the crime. And for this purpose they visited occupied Palestine more than three times over the last month, where direct meetings were held with Ari'el Sharon, a Zionist government minister. The meetings involved two of them at the time.

The information indicates that the Lebanese citizens received a sum totalling $1 million, according to estimates by Israeli circles, to participate in implementing the plot to assassinate 'Arafat.

Meanwhile, AL-SHA'B has learned that the information available in this regard has been conveyed to the Palestinian leader, Yasir 'Arafat, especially the information indicating that the decision to prepare for the assassination plot was made at a small meeting comprising a number of Zionist leaders together with the chief of the Israeli military intelligence organ, which has been entrusted with implementing the crime.

## Jordan's Al-Rifa'i Denies 'Economic Unity' Plan

*NC0209162188 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1535 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Alexandria, 2 Sep (MENA)—Jordanian Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i has denied recent reports by certain news agencies that Jordan has a plan for economic unity among a number of Arab states. He said there is no plan to this effect, though the idea as such is under consideration.

Al-Rifa'i made these remarks to reporters during celebrations at Victoria College in Alexandria.

Al-Rifa'i said that Jordan has not proposed such a project officially. However, he added, we do not deny that the idea is on our minds.

Al-Rifa'i emphasized that Arab solidarity and unity must be sacred goals sought by all Arabs. The day will come when we will see the countries of the Arab nation rallied cohesively around a sacred pan-Arab goal which we all endeavor to realize, he added.

The Jordanian prime minister noted that Arab unity should be sought in all fields and should include political and economic unity, in addition to real integration.

Al-Rifa'i called for a closer look into the blocs now being established in the world. He said that the European bloc constitutes a prime example, in which states and peoples of different religions, languages, and history are coming together to form a new kind of unity.

We in the Arab world have a common history, religion, culture, and language, he said. These elements provide a base which can be developed to form a cohesive Arab region, through which we can deal with the various areas of the world as a unified Arab nation instead of seperate states, he added.

Zayd al-Rifa'i expressed his pleasure at his visit to Egypt and to Victoria College, saying it provides an opportunity to recall cherished memories. He said Egypt has always been the meeting place for Arabs from different countries. [passage omitted]

## Ministries Try To Keep Toxic Waste Ship Away

*NC0309055388 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2115 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 2 Sep (MENA)—The newspaper AL-AHRAM reports that six Egyptian ministries are cooperating in order to prevent a toxic waste ship from entering Egyptian territorial waters, where its captain intends to sink it after failing to unload its cargo by illegal means in the territorial waters of other states.

In its 3 September issue, AL-AHRAM says that the Ministries of Defense, Interior, Transport, Electricity, Health, and Economy are cooperating to foil the attempt following an urgent message which Dr 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and administrative development, received from the UN Anti-Oil Pollution Regional Bureau in Cyprus, indicating that the ship "Jumbo Trust," which carries a cargo of toxic waste and is now docked at Beirut port, intends to leave the port for the Mediterranean where its crew will deliberately sink it.

Dr al-Muhammadi 'Id, director of the Environmental Affairs Department, has stated that Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, in cooperation with the ministers of interior, health, transport, electricity, and economy, has ordered the naval forces, the coast and border guard, and the port operations room to prevent the ship from entering Egyptian territorial waters and to impose round-the-clock surveillance to prevent the infiltration by this ship or others into our territorial waters.

## Libya

### JANA Political Editor on Redman Statement

*LD0709223588 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1830 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, 7 Sep (JANA)—JANA's political editor has commented on the statement made by Charles Redman, U.S. State Department spokesman yesterday, Tuesday, in which he said that U.S.-Libyan relations cannot improve unless Tripoli stops backing what he termed terrorism. He said:

This official U.S. attitude is a source of pleasure and pride, for while it exposes anew the aggressiveness and the barbarism of the U.S. Administration, it makes very clear the soundness of the Jamahiriyah's attitudes, the depth of its analyses, and the objectivity of its expectations. It also makes very clear that it is impossible for the Jamahiriyah as a progressive country which supports the cause of freedom and liberation and the U.S. Administration, as a hotbed for the planting and the spreading of evil in the world, to meet.

The political editor added after he had asked about who is the loser in the issue of improving relations, "We always feel that the United States is a hotbed of evil and corruption and a model for injust relations and that it is an administration suffering from the madness of power and greatness, trying to chain states and peoples and direct them as it wishes in a way that serves and consolidates U.S. interests."

The editor stressed: The United States will remain the only loser, and we will not meet with its evil ways. We do not welcome the resumption of relations with an evil specimen such as the current U.S. specimen, because we are proponents of good and amity, we are a force which endeavors to achieve justice among people and peoples, and because we distinguish between struggle and terrorism.

He added: The [word indistinct] U.S. administrations, and the current U.S. Administration specifically, have practiced every kind of terrorism including organized state terrorism. The current U.S. Administration is providing unlimited material and political support for the Zionist enemy in its persistent maltreatment of the sons of the Palestinian Arab people and for the consolidation of the occupation of their Arab land by the Zionist invaders. [word indistinct] the United States does not have the slightest right to talk about terrorism, as it is the last country that could deal with it, talk about it, or discuss combating it.

JANA's political editor concluded: Fundamental and incontrovertible truths confirm that the tables turn on the tyrant; and now the turn of feudalists and suckers of peoples' blood—led by the U.S. Administration, a worse regime than which the world has not and will not see—has come.

### Opposition Leader Reacts to Al-Qadhdhafi Speech

*NC0709172888 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1118 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA)—Dr Muhammad Yusuf al-Maqayraf, secretary general of "The National Front for The Salvation of Libya," the leading Libyan opposition group, has said that the verbal attacks launched lately by Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi against Egypt are a reflection of the colonel's repeated defeats at home and abroad. Al-Qadhdhafi's rhetorical campaigns increase in pitch and number as his failures increase.

In an interview with the magazine AL-MUSAWWAR, which will appear on Friday, Al-Muqayrif said that Al-Qadhdhafi reverts to his habit of attacking Egypt for several reasons. Foremost of these is his frustration at the little success his largely fictitious projects are having, as well as his feeling that his political message is not getting across to the Libyans and that opposition to him is strong both at home and abroad.

Al-Maqayraf added that among the reasons Al-Qadhdhafi is attacking Egypt is his resounding defeat in Chad, a major foreign policy failure. Al-Qadhdhafi may also be planning interference in the affairs of one of his neighboring countries, Al-Maqayraf noted.

Al-Maqayraf described as "nonsense" Al-Qajdhdhafi's claim that the Camp David agreements are the major cause for the estrangement between Egypt and Libya. This claim is simply an attempt by Al-Qadhdhafi to cast his own anger and frustration with Egypt in a pan-Arab language, Al-Maqayraf said, pointing out that Al-Qadhdhafi's crimes against Egypt began before late President Anwar al-Sadat went to Jerusalem.

Al-Maqayraf told AL-MUSAWWAR that Al-Qadhdhafi is still haunted by "a fabulous and crazy dream" that he is the right person to rule Egypt. He added that the more this dream recedes, the more Al-Qadhdhafi's frustration grows, and with it his desperate desire to take revenge.

Al-Maqayraf said that Al-Qadhdhafi is particularly embittered by the steady and wise leadership of President Husni Mubarak, which has made Egypt a bright example of democracy and freedom in the region and a country with stunning achievements in the areas of economic and social development.

One of the traits of Al-Qadhdhafi's deranged personality, Al-Maqayraf said, is that he does not believe in healthy personal relations which are based on mutual respect and appreciation. He only knows two kinds of men: those whom he fears and seeks to get even with, and those whom he despises and uses for his own ends. Al-Maqayraf said that this explains Al-Qadhdhafi's attacks on Arab leaders, particularly those in the Gulf. Al-Maqayraf said he denounces Al-Qadhdhafi's support of Iran against Iraq.

The secretary general of the National Front for the Salvation of Libya concluded by saying that there must be no dialogue, no meeting, and no reconciliation with Al-Qadhdhafi for, as he put it, "He is not the person to whom we should address the demands of the Libyan people." Al-Maqayraf said that the Libyan people have only one demand; namely, to put Al-Qadhdhafi on trial for all the crimes which he has committed against the Libyan people, the Arab world, and the international community in his 18 years of rule.

### More on Al-Maqaruaf Comments

*NC0209125688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1210 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Cairo, 2 Sep (MENA)—A spokesman for the National Front for the Salvation of Libya has stated that the front denounces the abusive language used by Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and his attack on fraternal Egypt, its leaders, and people.

In a statement published by AL-MASA' newspaper today, the spokesman said that Dr Muhammad Yusuf Al-Maqaryaf, the front's secretary general, has sent a cable to president Husni Mubarak on behalf of the front's strugglers. The cable denounces Al-Qadhdhafi's speech which was dedicated to an attack on the fraternal Egyptian people and their sincere nationalist leadership.

In the cable, Al-Muqariyif says that the Libyan people observe the actions of that "idiot" and look forward to the day when that regime falls, so that dear Libya and our Arab nation may be saved from his evil and eccentricity which have stained the reputation of the Arabs.

Al-Maqaryaf asserts in his cable that all sectors and categories of the Libyan people harbor love, appreciation, and gratitude for sister Egypt for its gallant stands on their just cause. He concluded that the eternal fraternal relations between the two peoples will return, God willing, when Al-Qadhdhafi's face has vanished from the scene.

### Meeting Held With Soviet Friendship Group

*LD0209221488 Tripoli JANA in English 0806 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Secretary-general of the Libyan Arab-Soviet friendship society met a delegation from the Soviet-Libyan friendship society headed by the deputy premier of the Soviet Republic of Kazakhstan.

The head of the delegation hailed the giant cultural transformations the Libyan Arab people achieved in various fields—thanks to the Great Al- Fatih Revolution.

He expressed pleasure at the success of the Soviet-Libyan friendship week held in Gulf of Sidra municipality last week.

During the meetings, both sides stressed the importance of developing the relations between the two friendly peoples—the Libyan Arab and Soviet—in all fields.

### USSR Delegation Departs After Revolution Fete

*LD0509022888 Tripoli JANA in English 1810 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 4, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Soviet delegation yesterday left Tripoli after attending the massive festivities of the Libyan Arab people marking the 19th anniversary of the Great al-Fatih Revolution and the 10th anniversary of the revolution of the producer-partners.

### Statement Issued on Unity With Sudan

*LD0209223488 Tripoli JANA in English 0820 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, Al Fatih 2, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—A statement was released on the progress of the meetings of team working toward unity action between the Great Jamahiriya and the Sudan in Khartoum. It read:

In reaffirmation of commitment in principle of both the Sudan and the Great Jamahiriyah, in the strategic aims which make up [as received] ascertain their common belonging to the Arab and Islamic nation and the African continent, with the strategy which approves Arab unity as a vehicle for mastering economic, political and human resources of the Arab nation and gearing these resources towards bringing it out of the reality of backwardness, division and surrogacy and based upon what was stressed in the document of national concordat which emphasizes the establishment of outstanding relations between the Sudan and Libya in accordance with the programme of the government of national unity and its policy of supporting relations between the Sudan and Libya in accordance with the programme of the government of national unity and its policy of supporting relations between brothers and in support of the draft put forward by the Great Jamahiriyah for Union of Arab countries in the context of the Charter for Arab Union capable of bringing them out of the present disintegration and into the reality a unity which amasses economic political and human records of the two countries in the road to a comprehensive unity. [sentence as received]

The two sides agreed to form a working group to put forward proposals and practical drafts for the establishing a union between the two countries. With the each sides presenting its own views to be studied by the other side and laid before the political leadership of both countries by certain date to be named so that a decision could be taken via the institutions and bodies in both countries. [sentence as received]

Meanwhile the Libyan Arab side was informed of the damage caused by the floods and rains in Sudan which make necessary for the Arab and international communities to stand by it in these conditions in order to enable it to overcome them and preserve its political, economic and social stability.

### JANA Editor on Egypt's Anti-Libya Campaign

*LD0509150388 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, 5 Sep (JANA)—The Egyptian regime's information media's attacks have continued against the great Jamahiriyah and the brother leader of the revolution. JANA's Arab affairs editor notes that the hysterical rancor against the Great 1 September Revolution and the vileness swamping those in charge of the newspapers of the Egyptian regime have recently led these papers to use expressions that even street hooligans would be ashamed of using openly.

The editor says: We are neither astonished nor surprised by this style, as it constitutes the natural behavior of traitors and apostates, the symbols of the culture of hashish, greed, and the singing of the praises of masters and enemies. The equation here becomes logical: Like regime, like information.

However, what make us now react to these mercenaries are at least two matters:

First, for over a year we have ignored the series of insults against the Arab Libyan people, which have daily become a sticking point in the mouths of Egyptian information officials, but which disturbingly turned into a bark calling for the insults' sources to rule. This base behavior has been witnessed by most Arab officials, including presidents, kings, and information ministers. In return, we stuck to the side of wisdom and reasonableness, and refrained from lowering ourselves to the level of answering this behavior in the hope that its sources or prime source would be ashamed and would respect some interventions that reproached them for this behavior. But they persisted in a way that gives us the right to respond energetically to the dirty information concerning normalization [as received] and their being prostrate at the door of the White House. We are fully justified in doing this.

Second, we appreciate the position of the fraternal Arab people of Egypt, and we realize that they are too respectable, deep-rooted, and pan-Arab for these hired pens to speak on their behalf. We understand that they are helpless but that they are lying in wait. It could well be that they are working to get rid of this disgrace that has been brought upon their deep-rooted history by the Stable David regime and its excretions; the mercenaries and the symbols of the culture of apostasy and treason, who are not concerned with the interests of the Egyptian people and their daily sufferings. They are not ashamed of having tarnished the honor of a whole nation, contemptuously treated its history and the blood of its martyrs, and having beat drums for and sung the praise of surrender to the enemy and normalization of relations with it.

The editor affirms: Proceeding from the firm and clear positions of the Great 1 September Revolution to the pan-Arab cause and all that concerns pan-Arab matters, we cannot live in a truce with a regime that has betrayed and abandoned the cause, surrendered to the enemy, worked for the entrenching of its occupation of Palestine and the Arab land, and made Egypt a bridge for the enemies of the Arab nation, enabling them to carry out their conspiracies and commit aggression against the Arab countries. We will remain on the side of our fraternal Arab people in Egypt and its revolutionary, pan-Arab forces:

We are convinced the Egyptian people have the ability to put an end to the Stable David regime and its symbols, and to erase the great humiliation caused them by this regime, so that liberated Egypt may return with, its radiant Arab national face, to the folds of the Arab nation at the forefront of the line of the great liberation battle against the Zionist enemy and U.S. imperialists, and the struggle for the realization of all-Arab unity.

### Arab People's Congress Secretariat Meets

*LD0509023488 Tripoli JANA in English 1803 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, Al-Fatih 4, JAMAHIRYAH NEWS AGENCY—The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress met this morning in its second ordinary session for this year.

The vice president of the Sudanese Council of State, Idris al-Banna, attended the meeting besides secretaries of some Sudanese parties, the secretaries of Lebanese parties, the delegation of the PLO, the delegation of Tunisia consisting of the leaders of the movement of Social Democrats and Popular Unity and the members of the Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress.

The morning session was dedicated for the solidarity with the people of the Great Jamahiryah on the 19th anniversary of the Great al-Fatih Revolution and solidarity with the Sudanese people in confronting the floods disaster and the economic crisis.

The agenda includes a number of items related to the preparation of the third session of the Arab People's Congress and the programme of action in solidarity with the revolution of the generation of anger in occupied Palestine through their people's committees as well as the preparation for the meeting of the committees of support for the heroes of Egypt in addition to debating the accords of Camp David and the joint manoeuvres with American imperialism.

The participants reasserted unanimously that Al-Fatih anniversary is a nationalist celebration and that the Great al-Fatih Revolution is the revolution of all Arabs for it carrying the banners of the Arab revolution and fighting for the goals of the Arab nation. [sentence as received]

### Issues Statement

*LD0609142388 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0809 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Tripoli, 6 Sep (JANA)—The Permanent Secretariat of the Arab People's Congress hailed the initiative of brother leader of the revolution to unite the Palestinian organizations. The secretariat also praised, in a statement it issued at the end of its second ordinary session, the generation of anger that is leading the mass revolution in occupied Palestine through its people's committees and the escalation of the heroic operations against the Zionist enemy.

The secretariat called on Arab masses to increase pan-Arab solidarity and to stand up with all determination to all imperialist, Zionist, and reactionary plots which are trying to harm the freedom and dignity of the Arab nation.

In its statement, the secretariat voiced its solidarity with national and democratic forces in Lebanon.

The statement emphasized full solidarity of the participants in the proceedings of the session, who took part in the festivities of the 19th anniversary of the Al- Fatih Revolution, with the Great Jamahiriyah and its revolutionary leadership in its confrontation against all imperialist plots.

## Mauritania

### President Taya Receives Polisario Envoy

*AB0309213088 Paris AFP in French 2102 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Nouakchott, 3 Sep (AFP)—The second in command of the Polisario Front, Bachir Mustapha Sayed, was received in Nouakchott today by the Mauritanian president to whom he delivered a message from the SDAR president, Mohamed Abdelaziz. The SDAR envoy, who is responsible for external relations of the Polisario Front, said he and the Mauritanian head of state discussed the current situation in Western Sahara and praised Mauritania for the role it has played in this area.

### President Sends Message to Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi

*AB0409180688 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 4 Aug 88*

[Text] Mr Mohamed Saleh Ould Addoud, minister of culture and Islamic orientation, was received on Thursday 2 September by the guide of the Libyan revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, to whom he delivered a message from Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, chairman of the National Committee for National Salvation and head of state. Mr Mohamed Saleh Ould Addoud has been in Libya for the past few days and while there has represented our country in the festivities commemorating the Libyan revolution of 1st September, and also (?held some meetings) with his Libyan counterpart.

### Briefs

#### Senegal, Guinea Envoys' Credentials

Nouakchott, 5 Sep (AFP)—The new ambassadors from Senegal, Ousmane Camara, and from Guinea- Conakry, Facine Bangoura, have presented their credentials to Mauritanian Head of State Colonel Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya, it was reported today in Nouakchott. The arrival of a new ambassdor from Senegal marks the reopening of its embassy, which was closed down in 1981 for economic reasons. [Text] [*AB0509133688 Paris AFP in French 1036 GMT 5 Sep 88*]

## Morocco

### Hassan Suffering From Digestive 'Disorders'

*LD0409134688 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Communique issued by the Ministry of Royal Palaces, Protocol, and Medals on 4 September; read by announcer]

[Text] Praise be to God: The Ministry of Royal Palaces, Protocol, and Medals would like to inform dear citizens that his majesty the august king, may God prolong his life, has disorders with his digestive system, a matter which has led his doctors, who have signed hereunder, to advise that his highness cut back on his royal engagements and take more rest.

[Signed] Dr Abdelsamad Talhi, Dr Abdelghani Methkal, Dr Moulay Driss Archane

### Minister Holds News Conference on Saharan Issue

*LD0709150188 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] The plan for a referendum on Western Sahara is only an episode, a detail. The important thing is that the Sahara is Moroccan. This was stated by Moulay Alaoui, Moroccan minister of state, who is responsible for the affairs of the Western Sahara. For him the integration of this territory into Morocco is not at all in doubt After the reservations expressed on its side by the Polisario Front, these words do not augur very well perhaps for the referendum process begun by the UN Secretary General.

Farida Moha attended the Moroccan minister's newss conference in Rabat:

[Begin Moha recording] The Saharan provinces have been Moroccan territory since Morocco has existed as a nation and state, for more than 12 centuries. This historic fact, Moroccan Minister of State Moulay Alaoui stated during his news conference, is fundamental, absolute, beyond challenge, and inalienable. Alongside this truth there is the relative, the detail, the episodic, and the procedural aspects. The referendum, Moulay Alaoui stated, is a procedure and an episode. [passage omitted] [end recording]

### Hassan Cables Al-Qadhdhafi on Libyan Revolution

*LD0209231488 Rabat MAP in English 1210 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Rabat Sept 2 (MAP)—King Hassan II of Morocco sent on the occasion of the Libyan National day a cable to leader of the Libyan revolution Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in which the Moroccan sovereign expressed warm congratulations and best wishes to the Libyan head of state and people.

The monarch also highlighted in the message the efforts exerted by Al-Qadhdhafi for the realization of the Arab grand Maghreb "which we regard as a must and a decisive and irreversible step."

The sovereign, on the other hand and in his capacity of chairman of the Al-Qods [Jerusalem] committee, received a message from President Moussa Traore of Mali in which the latter stressed the efforts made by the Moroccan king "in favor of the Palestinian people". Traore also reiterated his support to the struggle of the heroic Palestinian people under the leadership of the PLO its sole and legitimate representative, while hoping that the Al-Qods committee actions reach success under the clearsighted presidency of the sovereign.

The monarch also received a message from Bangladeshi President Hussain Mohammad Ershad on the occasion of the new hijra year.

### Greetings to USSR on Anniversary of Relations

*LD0209223988 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 1 Sep 88*

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Abdellatif Filali has expressed his deep satisfaction at the level of excellent relations between the Kingdom of Morocco and the USSR.

In a message of greetings to his Soviet counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Morocco and the Soviet Union, Filali pointed out the extremely positive nature of the development of bilateral relations over the past 30 years. He added that the establishment of a climate of peace in various parts of the world constitutes one of our two countries' continued preoccupations. He stressed that a promising climate has begun to prevail in the world and that some hotbeds of tension are on the verge of disappearing.

Abdellatif Filali praised the role played by the Soviet Union, as a superpower, in eliminating these conflicts. Finally Filali expressed his most sincere wishes for further progress and prosperity of the Soviet people. He expressed his hope that the friendly relations between the two countries would be further strengthened.

## Sudan

### Police Ordered To Fight Black Market

*JN0209112088 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1010 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Sep (SUNA)—The Interior Ministry has issued instructions to the police and security service to intensify their activities in order to fight the black market, sieze the stockpiled goods, and implement emergency regulations with the necessary firmness and justness.

In a statement to the newspaper AL-USBU' issued here today, Interior Minister Lieutenant General 'Abbas Abu Shamah asserted that these instructions mean to tackle the hard living conditions experienced by the citizens. The instructions also mean to serve the citizens so that they can easily obtain their daily living requirements at the legal prices declared by the state. The minister appealed to citizens to cooperate with the security organs and immediately inform them of the consumer goods through the official channels in order to help these organs play their important role effectively.

### Al-Mirghani Briefed on Armed Looting in Darfur

*JN0609161688 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1520 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Sep (SUNA)—State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani has been acquainted with the situation in the operations area during his meeting here today with General Fathi Ahmad 'Ali, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, who described the situation as calm.

The commander in chief said the Armed Forces are carrying out successful operations against the rebels and are operating with high spirits.

In a press statement, the commander in chief said he briefed the State Council chairman on the efforts to combat armed looting in Darfur and said looting has noticeably receded and that the Ibn 'Umar Forces have been divested of their weapons, equipment, and vehicles. He added that the Armed Forces performed their task toward the Ibn 'Umar Forces militarily and the situation will be dealt with through the political channels.

### Legislator, 39 National Party Members Arrested

*EA0609221288 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum—Reliable sources in Khartoum have informed radio SPLA that one member of parliament [MP] and at least 38 members of the Sudan National Party, one of the government parties which dominates in Southern Kurdufan, have been arrested and held by the Military Intelligence Unit in Kaduqli for the last 3 weeks.

According to our sources the news of the arrests broke last week amid stories that the arrested members of the Sudan National Party were being held on suspicon of cooperating with and supporting the SPLA. Last week the prime minister, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, told Parliament that the MP and his party leaders were arrested on the orders of the court after they have been accused of belonging to an underground illegal organization called "We in Kaduqli". The prime minister was quoted as saying that the MP was being held at an Army guest house in Kaduqli as a sign of respect for him.

The Sudan National Party representative in the government, the minister of hotels and tourism, was reported as saying that the arrest of the MP and members of his party in Kaduqli was part of a plot by some government parties to undermine his party in the area.

### Uganda Said To Host Government, Rebel Conference

*JN0309203288 Khartoum SUNA in English 1715 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 3 (SUNA)—Uganda has agreed to host the constitutional conference in which Premier Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi and leader of Sudan People's Liberation Movement "SPLM" Col John Garang will take part, the daily "AL-SIYASAH" reported today.

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni, who recently concluded a visit to Sudan, has accepted Sudan's proposal on convening the constitutional conference which will look into Sudan's political problems among them the south question, in Uganda.

Quoting a reliable source, the paper confirmed that the Ugandan authorities are currently searching for a suitable town for hosting the conference following the earlier consent of SPLM to participate in the proposed conference. The source described the agreement reached by al-Mahdi and Garang as positive and encouraging, adding it helped remove the difficulties on finding a suitable place.

Meanwhile, a member of the high committee for peace Andrew Wieu hailed the sustained efforts exerted for holding the conference. He added that the entrusted committee representing the government and the opposition will lay down and envision to be presented for all the political forces taking part in the conference. [sentence as received]

Wieu told the paper that the high committee for peace will convey to the representatives of SPLM the proposals of Sudanese political forces on holding a preparatory meeting to review the representation of all participants in the conference in addition to an immediate ceasefire between the government and the rebels. He stressed the necessity of dialogue and negotiations between the SPLM and the government, adding Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam has pledged to work for achieving stability in Sudan.

### AL-SHA'B Interviews Justice Minister

*PM0709155588 Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 30 Aug 88 p 6*

[Interview with National Islamic Front Secretary General and Justice Minister Dr Hasan al-Turabi by Tariq Hasan in Khartoum; date not given]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Hasan] Some believe that the front has lost out by joining the government, as it was gaining when it was in the opposition.

[Al-Turabi] We could have made cheap gains if we remained outside the framework of responsibility, advising and criticizing a government suffering from problems. But the danger to Sudan reached a point that could have destroyed the entire system. Then both the critics and the criticized would have lost out. This is because both the ruler and the opposition stand on the same ground, namely the rule of democracy and the constitution. Besides, the front did not want to ignore mistakes and suspicions or avoid challenges, because our Islamic inclination tells us that a reserved Muslim who ignores responsibilities is not of the caliber of one who struggles. The national Islamic Front is not a formal movement, but rather a leadership called upon to salvage the country. It tends to advance when facing difficulties and challenges. And we hope we will eventually secure an honorable share of loyalty, trust, and popularity.

[Hasan] In view of the ruling accord [government], some say that there is an agreement between you and [Sudanese Prime Minister al-Sadiq] al-Mahdi regarding a presidential republic of which he would be president and you prime minister.

[Al-Turabi] These are the delusions of politicians beset by fears of political struggle and gripped by the wish to secure gains and seize power, rather than by the spirit of responsibility. The constitution today provides only for a parliamentary system in which the State Council is formal and ceremonial and the Council of Ministers is the influential executive authority. This transitional constitutional process will continue until a new constitution is promulgated or a new referendum on the current constitutional system is held. It is difficult to predict what will happen to the accord government then. But I would like to emphasize that the elements of political accord, that is, the Al-Ummah Party, the Democratic [Unionist] Party [DUP], and the front are working harmoniously within the government, apart from the fact that political relations with the DUP are blemished by jealousy, though political stands are very close.

[Hasan] What is the truth behind the differences between you and the DUP?

[Al-Turabi] Some DUP elements tried to object to the appointment of some front figures to the government, including the governor of the capital, as well as some Constituent Assembly (parliament) positions, including the position of speaker. But the front won in every case because logic prompts the government to embrace the front—a necessity for survival. There is still a position in the State Council which I hope the front will win when the Constituent Assembly convenes. What will remain after that is for the front to guarantee the implementation of its program concerning the application of the Islamic Shari'ah. [passage omitted]

[Hasan] How will the crisis affect the course of the war in the south and Ethiopian-Sudanese relations?

[Al-Turabi] Military operations in the south are advancing in favor of national security and defense. Villagers in the south—whom the rebels relied on and used as a network for information and a source of food, recruits, and transportation—have emigrated. Thus rebel initiatives in the south have collapsed. People are surrendering their arms and heading for towns, especially now that the famine has beset the rebel forces. Moreover, John Garang began to hint at an Ethiopian stand seeking to trade Eritrea for the south, which may hand John Garang and his problem over to Sudan [as published]. Meanwhile, the government in Khartoum has been strengthened by the front's entry and there are rapid moves toward applying the Islamic Shari'ah. Garang and his international friends fear that if that happens Islam could become a firm reality in Sudan, thus liquidating the Garang movement before it can make any political gain worth mentioning. That is why various quarters are working actively to rescue John Garang before it is too late. And as the Sudanese Government has agreed to a tolerant offer to settle the south question, which was conveyed to Garang via Ethiopia, the political ground could be prepared for an imminent settlement to the south question, especially as the international accord is now moving toward settling all regional problems in Asia and Africa in the interest of major balances.

[Hasan] And what are the features of this imminent settlement?

[Al-Turabi] What is likely is a federal system comprising Sudanese provinces, including the south. There should be a system for sharing wealth and justice to restore rights for the oppressed. The application of the Shari'ah must be decentralized, exempting the south. Some southern quarters are demanding that Khartoum be exempted on the grounds that it is the capital of all, but we apply decentralization according to the will of the local majority. The majority in Khartoum are Muslims. If we talk of the overall majority, 85 percent of the Sudanese people are Muslims. Some propose that non-Muslims be exempted, but that is difficult to apply in practice because of the difficulty in distinguishing between citizens in a mixed city in terms of administrative and criminal application. [passage omitted]

## AL-AYYAM Reports 8,000 Die of Hunger in Awail

*NC0409162588 Paris AFP in English 1606 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 4 (AFP)—Eight thousand people have died of hunger in the southern town of Awail, which was cut off from the rest of the country three weeks ago by floods, the newspaper AL-AYYAM reported here Sunday.

Quoting official reports, the paper said several more thousand inhabitants were threatened with starvation. It said the Sudanese Government had been asked to consider flying relief supplies into Awail or the evacuation of the population. Food was also scarce or prohibitively expensive in the towns of Wau and Juba.

## Ministry Reports on Blue Nile Level in Khartoum

### Falls 1 Sep

*JN0109183488 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 1 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 1 Sep (SUNA)—The Blue Nile level at Khartoum today fell 2 cm below yesterday's to 16.71 m compared with 17.10 m for the comparable day of 1946.

Meanwhile, the level at the Al-Daym station at the Sudanese-Ethiopian border has dropped [words indistinct] against 11.94 m for yesterday [words indistinct]

Irrigation ministry sources say the drop at and to the north of Khartoum is likely to persist while the levels in the northern region north of 'Atbarah will continaue to be high, thus requiring added precautions.

### Down to 16.69 Meters on 2 Sep

*JN0209151288 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Sep (SUNA)—The Blue Nile level at Khartoum today fell to 16.69 meters in comparison to 16.71 meters yesterday and 17.14 meters on the same day of 1946—the highest level reached by the Nile at Khartoum in 1946 during the largest recent flood witnessed by the Nile.

Irrigation authorities said in their daily report that the level at the Al-Daym station on the Ethiopian-Sudanese border today also went down 12 cm from the level yesterday. The reservoir's drainage also decreased slightly in comparison to yesterday.

Irrigation Ministry sources added that they expect the levels to continue going down gradually in the north while the high levels will persist in the north of the northern region, which requires added precautions.

### Down to 16.64 Meters on 3 Sep

*JN0309154488 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 3 Sep (SUNA)—The Blue Nile level at Khartoum today fell to 16.64 meters compared to 16.69 meters yesterday and 17.09 meters on the same day of 1946, when the Nile witnessed its largest flood.

At the Al-Daym station on the Sudanese-Ethiopian border the water level remained steady as yesterday and the drainage of the reservoirs dropped slightly compared to yesterday.

The Irrigation Ministry's daily statement says that the water levels will continue to drop gradually along the Nile and in the north. However, the statement adds that the flood situation during the coming days depends on the rainfall on the Ethiopian plateau, and that this necessitates surveillance until the situation becomes clear.

### Falls to 16.50 on 5 Sep

*JN0609152888 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Sep (SUNA)—The Blue Nile level at dropped in Khartoum to 16.50 meters yesterday, compared to 16.55 meters the day before yesterday. But it registered a noticeable rise at the Al-Daym station on the Ethiopian borders where it reached 12.54 meters yesterday, compared to 11.88 meters the day before yesterday.

The Irrigation Ministry's daily report explains that at the present time the river's water level will continue to decrease gradually.

On the other hand, Irrigation Minister Mahmud Bashir Jamma' has stated that the floods are no longer critical and that the Nile level will continue to decrease in spite of the rise that was registered at Al-Daym station yesterday. The minister said he will soon meet with his Egyptian counterpart to discuss the changes that took place on the Nile's water course in northern [word indistinct]. He added that consultations will be held to formulate recommendations and adopt plans to remedy this situation.

### Below 16 Meters on 6 Sep

*JN0609163788 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1455 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 6 Sep (SUNA)—The Blue Nile level in Khartoum dropped to 16.46 meters today, compared to 16.50 meters yesterday and to 16.80 meters on the same day in 1946, which witnessed the biggest flooding of the Nile in recent times. The level of the Nile at the Al-Dayn station on the Sudanese-Ethiopian borders reached 12.74 meters today, compared to 12.54 meters yesterday.

The discharge of the reservoirs also dropped. The Al-Rusayris reservoirs discharged 604 million cubic meters today, compared to 59 [figure as received] yesterday. The Sanar Reservoir discharged 518 milion cubic meters today, compared to 495 million yesterday. The Al-Qarab Reservoir's discharge registered 201 million cubic meters today, compared to 210 million yesterday.

The Irrigation Ministry officials issued a statement today explaining that the rise of the level in the Al-Dayn station does not pose any danger at the present time, that its effect on the the level of the Nile will be slight, and that the ministry will explain the situation if the level continues to rise.

### Maintains Level 7 Sep

*JN0709164688 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1605 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Sep (SUNA)—The Blue Nile in Khartoum maintained the same level as yesterday's at 16.46 meters, compared to 16.58 meters on the same day in 1946, which witnessed the biggest flooding of the Nile in Sudan's modern history.

The level of the Al-Dayn station reached 12.55 meters, compared to 12.74 meters yesterday.

The discharge from the Al-Rusayris, Sanar, and Al-Qarab reservoirs increased a little from that of yesterday.

The Irrigation Ministry said that the rise in the level of the upper catchments does not pose any threat at the present time and that its effect on the level of the Nile will be small.

## Nile's Level on Ethopian Border Reported 4 Sep

*JN0409161288 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1454 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Sep (SUNA)—Irrigation Minister Mahmud Bashir Jamma' has announced that the Blue Nile level dropped at the Al-Daym station on the Ethiopian border. It reached 11.67 meters, compared to 11.68 meters on the preceding day.

In a statement yesterday, the minister said that the risk of floods is now over [words indistinct] on the Ethiopian Plateau.

Meanwhile, a statement by the Ministry of Irrigation [words indistinct] says the Nile level will continue its gradual decline alongside the river [words indistinct] at present. It points out that an end to the floods in the coming days depends on rainfall on the Ethiopian Plateau. It calls for continuous watch until things become quite clear.

## SPLA Radio Addresses Flood Victims

*EA0509204688 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[From "The Rage of the Oppressed" program]

[Excerpts] Once again dear listeners, we welcome you to our weekly programme "The Rage of the Oppressed." In this new edition, we really don't know where to begin, because lots of things have happened in the Sudanese political arena, among them, the ongoing war being waged by the Sudanese oppressed and neglected people, who took up arms as the last resort to bring about political, social and economic changes in the country. Where there will be freedom, equality, justice and social progress for all Sudanese people, the aim of which is the creation of a new democratic united Sudan.

Despite the fact that all efforts are being made by some political parties, nongovernmental organizations, such as the religious leaders, trade unions, including individuals and, on top, efforts being made by the SPLM/SPLA, this (?has) been of no avail. The efforts, as you know, have been and still are being frustrated by the government of Sadiq al-Mahdi, manifested in his last month's Declaration of State of Emergency, which according to him was because of war in the south, economic situation and floods [sentence as heard]. [passage omitted]

This state of emergency declared by Sadiq is a sign of his fear of the growing strength of the oppressed millions of Sudanese people, struggling for their bread, equal rights in every walk of life for all without distinction. But because Sadiq is fighting for inequality, disintegration and the enslavement of the Sudanese people, he always dreams and believes in military victory.

Directed against the SPLA which has featured the strongest among all the political forces fighting against this ugly, sectarian and repressive regime, it is known that the State of Emergency is directed first against all political forces, demanding a peaceful solution through dialogue with the SPLM/SPLA leader Comrade John Garang de Mabior. I will not discuss it now, but we shall discuss it in the next coming issue. [passage omitted] But, surprisingly, all this relief aid could not reach the flood victims, the results of which is their continued suffering. [passage omitted]

Alas, in spite of millions of dollars and tons of material aid, Sadiq goes to the area affected by the flood to visit the flood victims empty-handed. While addressing them, photos are being taken, written in the newspapers and on TV inviting more relief aid, demanding more to be brought, while though the supply which had been brought to Sudan had never been given to the flood victims. [sentence as heard] Sadiq even went as far as to threaten foreign media in the country because they (?trail) what his government is doing on the relief distribution.

What does Sadiq want? I see. There is one thing I wanted to remind you, listeners: When Sadiq became the prime minister he refused monthly pay, but later demanded—which was given to him—the sum of about 36 million Sudanese pounds as compensation for the properties claimed to have been destroyed during Numayri's era. But how many Sudanese lost their properties, including their wealth during Numayri's regime? Why are they not given compensation? If Sadiq waits until his house is submerged also so that he would take lots of this relief aid for himself, I think this has been the reason, and if this is true, as it appears to be, we therefore appeal to the flood victims to unite and form a joint front against Sadiq al-Mahdi, to pressurize his government to hand over the relief to their own hands.

This committee, which they will form, they must consist of flood victims and not the army who are not affected by floods. They should be in direct link with the relief agencies and not the irresponsible people like Sadiq al-Mahdi. [passage omitted] But we advise them, the flood victims that they should not worry because they have not feared when they fought against the Numayri system. This is not different from the Numayri's regime. They should fight hard against the army, they should win over the confidence of the army to be on their side, and (?wrest) out this relief aid and to be the people responsible for the distribution and to be given to them [sentence as heard] [passage omitted]

## SPLA Spokesman on 'Heavy Fighting' South of Juba

*EA0609220488 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] The official spokesman of the SPLA today reported that heavy fighting has been going on between

Juba and Yei since 29 August 1988 and that till today the fighting continues between SPLA forces and a large enemy convoy that is attempting to go to Juba from Yei.

The spokesman revealed that the enemy convoy is mixed, consisting of many big double trucks from a foreign country, and a military escort, code-named Jundi al-Watan [Soldier of the Homeland], made up of one infantry battalion reinforced with tanks, artillery, and military engineers all under the command of a colonel. The enemy convoy has been completely bogged down over the last 9 days and is being destroyed piecemeal. In the last 2 days of heavy fighting the SPLA destroyed more than 20 vehicles, including 12 foreign trucks and the rest enemy vehicles. Details will follow as they reach.

The enemy is reported to be sending reinforcement from both Juba and Yei to rescue the beleaguered Jundi al-Watan. But the SPLA is ready to wipe out these reinforcements as it has been planned and prepared [as heard] many deliberate ambushes along the entire Juba-Yei road. SPLA forces are under overall command of Alternate commander John Kolong, deputy general commander for Central and Western Equatoria. In a related statement, the spokesman also reported that the enemy was preparing a convoy to move from Juba to Torit and that the SPLA was fully prepared to destroy such a force.

### Al-Mirghani on Arab Assistance, Palestinians

*JN0209123788 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum—His Excellency Ahmad al-Mirghani, Sudanese State Council Chairman, saluted His Majesty King Husayn and said the Jordanian-Sudanese relations are old, deep-rooted in history, firm, and developing. In a meeting with a Jordanian press delegation that recently visited Sudan, he said that Sudan highly appreciates the great attention to Sudan paid by His Majesty King Husayn and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan. He said Sudan has the same feelings toward Jordan and gives special consideration for links between the two brotherly countries.

He said: We have confidence in the wisdom of his majesty the king and the step he made concerning the dismantling of legal and administrative relations with the West Bank, which is in the interest of the Palestinian Arab people. All steps taken by his majesty took into consideration the interest of the Arab world, the Palestinian brothers in the occupied Arab territories, and the PLO.

On the ordeal that the Sudanese people are now overcoming, Al-Mirghani said: The Sudanese people are very patient. They have been united, believing in God and fate, to overcome the daily hardships they are facing. He said the response of the Arab brothers to help Sudan overcome its ordeal was speedy, good, and up to the desired level. It raised the morale of the Sudanese people, who saw the Arab brothers supporting them to overcome their plight. He said Sudan is free of diseases and epidemics, and that food is flowing to the people in a normal way.

Answering a PETRA question on the nature of the Arab-Israeli conflict in the coming stage, Al-Mirghani said: the origin of the conflict did not stop. It is continuing and taking different aspects. The events during the Gulf war somewhat overwhelmed the Palestinian question, but the situation now has been modified in favor of the Arab nation. He said the Palestinian uprising is a great act as the earthquake came from the land that Israel thought was stable. The issue exists, he said, and the Palestinian people are demanding their legitimate rights. The Arab world's opportunity is now much better than before.

Chairman Al-Mirghani reiterated his thanks for the leadership, government, and people of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan for their help to enable Sudan overcome its ordeal. He expressed the hope that Crown Prince Hasan would visit his second home, Sudan, to meet his brothers there. He paid tribute to Jordanian media for their handling of Sudanese issues.

### Al-Mirghani on 'Looking Forward' To Ending War

*JN0409151488 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Sep (SUNA)—State Council Chairman Ahmad al-Mirghani has said that Sudan is looking forward to an urgent formula to end the war in the south so that everybody will be free to build Sudan and speed its development.

In a statement to the newspaper USBU published here today, Al-Mirghani said that Sudan supports and encourages all internal efforts and endeavors that lead to restoring peace and solving the problem of the south. He added that any peaceful intentions by John Garang's movement to join the national fold will be met with good intentions by the state and its various political forces.

### Kuwait To Finance Highway Construction, Give Oil

*JN0409062488 Khartoum SUNA in English 1720 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, Sept 3 SUNA, The Government of Kuwait agreed to finance Khartoum-'Atbarah highway northern region and also agreed to present an emergency quotas of petroleum to Sudan.

This came during the visit of leader of the Democratic Unionist Party DUP Muhammad 'Uthman Al-Mirghani to Kuwait. Al-Mirghani discussed with the Kuwaiti officials during the week long visit bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

On the other hand, the DUP leader will leave for Iraq Sunday on a three day visit as response to an invitation from the Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

## Minister Praises Soviet Assistance in Disaster

*JN0409061588 Khartoum SUNA in English 1755 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum Sept 3 (SUNA) Culture and Information Minister 'Abdallah Muhammad Ahmad has expressed Sudan's thanks and appreciation to the great concern and generous assistance it has been received from the people of the Soviet Union.

This came during a meeting here today with a delegate from the Soviet Red Crescent and Cross Societies Union currently on visit to the country.

The delegate told the minister that he came to Sudan upon an authorization by the Soviet government and the Soviet Red Crescent and Cross Societies Union to stand beside the Sudanese people while challenging the disaster.

The delegate said he was also instructed to re-activate relations with the Sudanese Red Crescent and discuss with Sudanese officials any humanitarian issue that concern the two countries.

## Saudi Arabia To Help Armed Forces' Development

*JN0409062088 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum Sept 3 (SUNA)—Prime Minister Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi has agreed on the recommendations submitted by the defence minister regarding the development of the Armed Forces capacities in order to enable them to implement its national duties the daily news paper AL-DA'WAH issued today reported.

The paper quoted military source as saying that Saudi Arabia had agreed to provide military assistance to Sudan.

The source added that the defence minister who returned recently from Saudi Arabia would accompany Premier al-Sadiq al-Mahdi in a foreign tour in this regard.

## Chad's Habre Said To Welcome Sudan's Mediation

*JN0709151288 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Sep (SUNA)—Chadian President Hissein Habre has expressed his readiness to accept any solution presented to him by the Sudanese Government to solve the problem of the Chadian opposition Ibn Oumar Forces, which are curently present in the Darfur region in Western Sudan. He also welcomed any Sudanese mediation in solving the problem of these factions through dialogue.

This was reported today in the newspaper AL-USBU'. The newspaper quoted Darfur Region Governor Dr Al-Tijani al-Sisi as saying that the Sudanese Government embarked on practical steps to open dialogue between the various Chadian factions and the chadian Government.

Dr al-Sisi explained that the Sudanese Government will mediate bewtween these factions and the legitimate regime in Chad. He said that he expects these efforts to result in the near future in a just political solution to this problem.

## Political Figures React to Unity Proposals

*JN0609103088 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 4 Sep 88 pp 1, 14*

[Text] Khartoum, AL-BAYAN—The statement issued last Wednesday [31 August] in Khartoum on steps toward unity between Sudan and Libya is still provoking wide reactions from all sides, particularly after Dr Husayn abu Salih, foreign minister and member of the Political Bureau of the Sudanese Democratic Unionist party (DUP)—led by Muhammad 'Uthman Al-Mirghani, and which participates in the government—affirmed that he signed the statement.

He said that the DUP adheres to it as long as it participates in the government in spite of the wide objections it received from the party's leaders and masses. Taj al-Sir Muhammad Salih, minister of state at the Foreign Ministry, who also represents the DUP, asserted that the statement was not discussed in the Foreign Ministry of by the DUP organs.

Dr Fadlallah 'Ali Fadlallah, minister of Public Service and Administrative Reform, yesterday said that the Cabinet did not discuss the unity proposals, and that any unity action must begin at the base not the summit. Richard Makubi, minister of Regional Coordination and Local Government Planning, did not join the governmental delegation, which participated in Libya's celebration of the 1 September anniversary as a protest against the unity statement.

The newspaper AL-ADWA' reported that sources in the DUP think that the reason behind issuing the statement was to abort the current visit of DUP Leader 'Uthman al-Mirghani to Iraq. Other sources in the DUP described the statement as a balloon that will burst when the celebrations are over. It has been rumored in Khartoum that the DUP Political Bureau began to prepare a memorandum to be discussed by the government on the country's foreign policy. The DUP leaders also wanted Al-Mirghani to come back to Sudan quickly after the two visits [to Kuwait and Iraq] in order to resovle the situation regarding the statement and Dr Husayn Abu Salih.

Sudanese sources told AL-BAYAN that six leading figures from the three parties in the government had participated in the talks with the Libyan delegation. Ahmad Sa'id, minister of state for Republican Palace Affairs, (DUP): Dr 'Uthman Madwi (Islamic front): and Dr 'Umar Nur al-Dayim (al-Ummah Party) were in favor of the statement, while Dr Abu Salih (DUP); Mahdi Ibrahim (Islamic Front); and Ibrahim al-Amin (Al-Ummah Party) were against it. The result was in favor fo the statement on condition that it be signed by Foreign Minister Dr Abu Salih because the Libyan side was represented by a deputy foreign minister.

### Defense Minister Returns From Tripoli

*JN0209184488 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1716 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 2 Sep (SUNA)—Defense Minister Lietenant General 'Abd al-Majid Hamid Khalil returned home today from Tripoli after a visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah upon the invitation of Colonel Abu Bakr Yunus, member of the leadership of the historic 1 September Revolution, during which he attended the Jamahiriyah's celebrations of the 19th anniversary of the 1 September Revolution.

The defense minister was accompaneid by lieutenant Fathi Ahmad 'Ali, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and Air Force Commander [words indistinct].

### Technical Committees To Study Peace Proposals

*JN0709151688 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1441 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Khartoum, 7 Sep (SUNA)—The newspaper AL-NAHAR today quoted Foreign Minister Dr Husayn Abu Salih as saying that the Sudanese-Ethiopian technical committees have (? suspended) their meetings to wait for the results of the current studies regarding peace proposals submitted by the governments of both countries. He pointed out that the Sudanese and Ethiopian proposals may result in a peace plan.

The minister said that the technical committees will continue their meetings after the reactions from both sides have been made.

### Death of Dinkas in 3-Week Trek Reported

*EA0109120988 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 31 Aug 88*

[From the "With the Battalions" program' unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Compatriots, SPLA combatants in the field, greetings to you all in the name of our revolutionary armed struggle and welcome to this week's edition of our weekly program "With the Battalions." [passage omitted]

Comrade Colonel Joseph Ruot Wai, who until recently was in Khartoum's Army, disclosed to Radio SPLA that a number of Arab countries are helping the Khartoum regime in its brutal Mafia-style destruction of Sudan.

The SPLM/SPLA, which is the sole, authentic representative of the oppressed Sudanese people, condemns this occupational ambition of the Arab countries in question, and reminds them that by conspiring and supplying the sectarian, belligerent, intransigent and primitive Khartoum regime with arms and soldiers, they are only prolonging the suffering of the Sudanese people, and they must be ready to face the consequences.

We also call upon the patriotic Sudanese people not to have illusions that the racist prime minister is really serious about peace, and will talk with the movement. [passage omitted]

We are facing a monstrous regime which has no respect for human life. We are facing a regime which believes that Sudanese of Arab origin were specially selected by God to rule over the Sudanese of African origin.

Fellow countrymen, we must be prepared for a long and protracted struggle in order to regain our country's independence, dignity, and respect. For us to accomplish this mission, we must be united, determined, and valiant. Unity is strength. Let us be united, determined, and valiant. Unity is strength. Let us unite under the banner of our mighty SPLM/SPLA and contribute effectively to the struggle by giving every necessary support and assistance to the valiant combatants of the SPLA, who are courageously facing the enemy on the battlefield, for the country to be free. We must utilize every second of every hour to intensify the armed liberation struggle in our country. The language of the gun is what the enemy gets. Every effort, everything, must be dedicated to the struggle and for final victory.

Wherever you are, in the bush, in the mountains, in schools, factories, farms, hospitals, churches, in mosques, wherever you are, the slogans from now on must be for the building of the democratic new Sudan, under the banner of the SPLM/SPLA. Sudan belongs to us all, and must be free. [music]

Comrades-in-struggle, allow me to uncover some hidden facts pertaining to the death of hundreds of people whose skeletons are reported by the international media as littering the railway line from Aweil, in southern Bahr al-Ghazal, to Babanusah. To correctly establish the causes of the deaths of these people, let us look back to the reasons that caused them to flee their homes. The first and foremost is the war, and the question that every individual asks is, who is fighting these people? It is the government of Sadiq al-Mahdi who is fighting these people, through arming the Baqara tribesmen to devastate the Dinka villages. the second reason for these people to leave their homes is hunger, and hunger is caused by the war. It is a well-known fact that the Dinka people are cattle owners, who depend largely on their animals for food and milk.

Primary targets of Sadiq al-Mahdi's sponsored militia in the Dinka land are the cattle and children of the Dinka people. Having lost their cattle, having their crops destroyed, and having most of their children taken captive by the Baqara, these poor citizens thought it was wise to seek refuge in their supposed national capital. The only means to reach the capital is by train; that is why they boarded the train last April.

The story the BBC correspondent reported is not new. Perhaps the question one may ask is: Why did the government not report on these people trekking along the railway line to Khartoum, knowing that they were displaced people, without food, so that humanitarian organizations could rush food aid to save them from dying.

The allegations that these people were trekking on foot following the railway line, and that more than 270 of them died in Meiram of starvation and diseases, are unbelievable. The BBC reporter merely reproduced the government version of the story, which is false

The true story is that 10,000 Dinkas boarded three trains from Aweil at the beginning of April, with nothing to eat or to depend upon during their journey. The authorities did not prevent them from getting into these trains. Along the way, the policemen and soldiers guarding the trains realized that the unwanted passengers had to be disposed of. They started pushing those who were at the top of the trains, one after another, to their death. That is why you find human skeletons lying by the railway from aweil to meiram.

At Meiram railway station, in southern Kordofan, the trains stopped. The Remaining Dinkas were told that the trains would remain at the station for several hours to allow those who could afford it to leave to fetch some food at the local market. According to our sources, 7,000 persons left the trains to search for food in the small local market. Once they had they left the trains, the trains left for Babanusah, the next station to the north of Meiram.

Most of the 7.000 who had left the trains were left behind in Meiram, where they were reported to have been subjected to assaults from the Baqara militia of Sadiq al-Mahdi; several hundred children disappeared, believed to have been abducted by the Arabs. Several young and elderly men who attempted to resist the Baqara assaults were killed. Those remaining, who are reported to be suffering, are robbed of their children and left to starve to death before the eyes of government officials. The bodies of those killed by the Baqara, and those who were left to starve to death, are left to the birds to prey. At Meiram railway station you will see a lot of human skeletons.

The tragedy does not end here. northeast of Babanusah, at (Abu Zabab) railway station, several hundred Dinkas were also left to the mercy of their Arab enemies. Some reports speak of only 1,782 people arriving in Khartoum in a pitiful condition after 3 full weeks of a bitter journey. Seven of them died on arrival at Khartoum railway station—six young children and a woman. The remaining passengers were ordered off the train by the police and ordered to disappear. Many of these passengers were in Khartoum for the first time, and did not know where to go. But there was no alternative, they had to leave the station. Several hundreds [word indistinct] aimlessly to all corners of the town and to the shanty areas. The survivors recalled that throughout their 3-week journey the authorities have given them no protection from the hostile Arab tribesmen, neither did they give them food. most of the time they were told to keep quiet.

We were treated like hostages, lamented one survivor. This was the hazardous, tragic journey of the 10,000 people from Aweil, most of whom were either killed, taken captive by the Baqara Arabs, or are facing starvation and death in Meiram and Abu Zabad railway stations.

We appeal to the international humanitarian organizations to rush relief aid to those victims of racial hatred, who are stranded in Meiram and (Abu Zabab) stations.

## Tunisia

### Ben Ali, Al-Qadhdhafi Inaugurate Oil Field

*LD0509023688 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Tunisian-Libyan relations of brotherhood and cooperation yesterday witnessed an important event in which President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Colonel Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, presided over a ceremony inaugurating the offshore oil field in Al-Buri region, situated 125 km northwest of Tripoli and is considered a model of the unionist projects between the two countries.

This ceremony was characterized by the announcement of the joint exploitation by the two countries of a surface estimated at 3000 square km adjacent to the northwest of Al-Buri, within the framework of the Tunisian-Libyan company it was agreed to set up.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and his brother, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi met again on the ship "Granada-Tripoli," which transported them yesterday morning from the port of Jarjis [on the extreme south of the Tunisian shore] to Al-Buri field. More details in our next bulletin.

### Ben Ali Hails Relations With Libya

*LD0509085788 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi held face to face talks on board the ship which docked at Al-Buri region at 1730. [passage omitted]

In a statement to representatives of Arab and international mass media, President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali said: This is a distinguished occasion for me to share this memorable day with brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Al-Fatih Revolution, and the Libyan brotherly people, and to inaugurate this great achievement, which is considered a pride for the great Jamahiriyah and the whole Arab nation.

Our presence today with you is a clear symbol and firm evidence that this sea region, which was previously a spot of tension and misunderstanding between our two countries, is turned today, thanks to 7 November, into a clear sign of understanding, cooperation, and unity. It serves the interest of our two brotherly peoples, who have been linked throughout the years by the strong ties of friendship and solidarity even during the most difficult circumstances.

This giant achievement which we inaugurate today is a vivid example of the unity projects that we are determined to achieve serving the supreme interest of our peoples and consolidation of common unionist efforts. We are daily trying to bolster and consolidate such efforts through a strong will, honest determination, and realistic optimism.

We are determined [words indistinct] to implement all agreements reached in all fields, in the belief they represent the best way toward the realization of our unionist tendency.

## Ben Ali Addresses Officials on Charter

*LD0609210588 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali met this morning at the Palace of the Republic in Carthage with the secretaries general of the political parties, the chairmen of the national organization, and a number of national political personalities within the framework of preparing the national charter.

The meeting was attended by Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche; Abderrahim Zouari, secretary general of the Democratic Constitutional Rally; Ahmed Mestiri, secretary general of the Socialist Democrats Movement; Mohamed Harmel, secretary general of the Tunisian Communist Party; Mohamed Belhadj Amor, secretary general of the People's Unity Party; Habib Tliba, chairman of the National Trade Union Committee; Taoufik Sid, chairman of the Farmer's National Union; Hedi Jilani, chairman of the Tunisian Union of Industry and Trade; Dr Naziha Mezhoud, chairman of the Women's National Union; and Mounir Beji, Brahim Hayder, Nejib Chebbi and Noureddine Bhiri.

The president of the republic began the meeting with the following statement:

[Begin Ben Ali recording] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, we open the session. I would like, first of all, to welcome you in the Palace of the Republic, [words indistinct] it is a great day. I want to read a written speech which I prepared for this opening session. This speech completes the message I sent you and which was related to (?fixing) the national charter. Then, all the brothers will be given the opportunity to speak, and I would like to listen to their views.

We will consider this session to be the first of the higher committee, and maybe we will, during the next sessions, and the next session [as heard], set up subcommittees.

When we have agreed on the issues and the crucial points of the charter, we will set up subcommittees. Each of them will study one of the issues, then, before next 7 November, the higher committee will submit its report. We will, God willing, be able to set up the charter which will respect all political and any other sensitivities in the country and will demonstrate the unity of the Tunisian people. This is what I wanted to open the session with and if you do not mind, I am going to read my written speech:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, we meet today to open—for the first time in the history of our independent country—a new page in the interaction between the various responsible parties, tendencies, and ideological groups. Our only aim is meeting our people's aspirations, being (?guided) by brotherly and civilized interaction, realizing the objectives of the homeland, and serving its interests.

Previously, on the anniversary of Republic Day, I called for the preparation of a national charter. I sent a message to the parties, organizations, bodies, patriotic personalities, and thinkers, in which I explained the reasons and the circumstances requiring the implementation of such a task of civilization. I also determined in this message aspirations of this charter and the fundamental issues compelling us to define our positions on them, to make them a common denominator between us, and to commit ourselves to the necessity of keeping the charter's issues out of any disputes.

I was encouraged to call for this charter by the national unanimity round the 7 November Declaration and the degree of awareness and maturity reached by the Tunisian people—as I had stressed on various occasions—and by the extent of the people's attachment to ideals and basic values, foremost among which are democratic aspirations and the call to create a state of law and with sovereignty over all, without exception.

The unanimity on these values was the first point of reference and main support for the revival of incentives in the country and for the national movement, as well as reconstruction. The realization of these objectives was possible thanks to the unity of efforts of all the people's sons, and the unity of the various factions of these people. Following independence, it was possible to establish a sensible and educated Tunisian society, thanks to the concentration of modern establishments and the spread of education and culture and through using the heritage [words indistinct]. However, in recent years our country passed through a disturbing period which hindered the movement of progress and renovation; it nearly ended stability and nearly destroyed confidence and hope. The 7 November Movement arrived to put an end to these deviations.

The statement, which we regard as an extension of those original values, was an incentive for such values to emerge anew with strength and hope. This opened new vistas for continuing and enriching the principles and general tendencies it contained, all of which consolidate the credit of such values. It is now time to entrench, expand, and enrich such principles so that we can provide them with a practical dimension guaranteeing the completion and continuation of those decisions that have not yet been made in order to facilitate them. Because we believe that the independence of our country, the safety of our soil, the impregnability of our homeland, and the progress of our people are the responsibility of all Tunisians. And the love and defense of the homeland, as well as the enhancement of the homeland's prestige is the sacred duty of every compatriot. As all the sons and factions of these people are called upon to constructively participate in administering the homeland's affairs, it is inevitable that we should enter into constructive as well as frank dialogue and consultations between the various political and social parties in the country. In this way we can study the appropriate methods to put into practice the declared principles and agree on a sound time plan for this.

This charter which we are calling for does not represent a government program or a coalition plan, but it is a civilized and national project which was worked out within the framework of a general vision embodying what we desire for our country. The charter also embodies the practical actions for its implementation and the kinds of relations and attitudes that should exist among all sides, removed from any exclusions or hegemony.

Together we would like to express common viewpoints on the crucial issues that govern our country's present and future. We would like to achieve this while preserving the independence of all sides and while firmly establishing pluralism, in principle and practice, through the respect for the atmosphere of political and party competition as stipulated by the Parties Law.

The charter which we are calling for is a moral commitment that spares us from all kinds of bargaining with anybody. It presents an opportunity for achievement and implementation within the framework of realizing the citizens' aspiration and comprehensively developing the country. This moral and voluntary commitment can never be a substitute for the constitution and its guarantees. It cannot replace either the Parties Law or the rest of the laws, but it complements what is explicit in these laws by trying to firmly establish them, and to give them their disciplinary and moral visions, which cannot be accomodated in these laws alone. We should make this charter a basis for responsible and civilized relations.

My message to you has therefore included the main points which could constitute the bases for preparing the desired charter. In our opinion dialogue must deal with a minimum of some inevitable issues and topics to achieve two fundamental goals: To guarantee the success of the democratic process in the country and to give a new momentum to the development work on a solid basis.

It is possible for us to agree initially upon the main points which should be considered as the main pillars for this civilized project and can be summarized as follows: What is the sort of democracy which we are seeking and what are the dimensions of such a democracy? What are its general orientations, requirements, and the necessary dispositions which would guarantee an equal opportunity for everyone to take part in the process of making and implementing the choices? What is the nature of the required social peace which would guarantee the continuity of the state and the integrity of its institutions that, on one hand, help enhance the sequence of the democratic process, and on the other provide the most suitable conditions to confront the challenges of development? What are the characteristics of the society which we want in our country? How can we consolidate the components of our identity and its developments? What is our educational and cultural conception which is necessary for consolidating the civilized dimension in our country? What sort of relations should our country establish with the rest of the countries and groupings? What status should our relations with fraternal and friendly countries have, whether with groups or single countries, in the future? How can we guarantee that our country would play its distinguished role within these relations?

The desired charter is not a ready-made conception, nor is it an imposed one. It is a voluntary choice and shows a spontaneous readiness to take part in its formulation, by considering our social and political particularities and showing commitment to achieve our people's aspirations and apprehension of the conditions around us.

Our meeting today is the starting point for the crystallization of this project in an agreed form which all of us, proceeding from our belief in the sanctity of the national duty which calls upon us to work seriously and promptly to achieve our national aspirations and goals, should be committed to it.

And hold fast, all together, by the rope which God stretches out for you, and be not divided among yourselves. [Koranic verse] Indeed, God speaks the truth. God's peace, blessing, and benediction be upon you.

### Constitutional Rally Leader Outlines Plans

*PM0109140588 London AL-MAJALLAH in Arabic 31 Aug-6 Sep 88 pp 24, 25*

[Interview with Constitutional Rally Secretary General Abderrahim Zouari in Tunis by identified correspondent; date not specified]

[Excerpts] [AL-MAJALLAH] Why was the size of the Political Bureau reduced from 20 to 13 members last December and then reduced further at the recent conference to 7 members? Is there any reason for this?

[Zouari] This reduction falls within the framework of building the Democratic Constitutional Rally from the grassroots right to the Political Bureau at the top. While the number of Central Committee members has been increased to secure sufficient representation and include all capabilities, the number of Political Bureau members has been reduced to deal with the rally's major options in light of the conference resolutions and recommendations.

[AL-MAJALLAH] What is the Political Bureau's role at this stage regarding both the party and Tunisia?

[Zouari] The Political Bureau is the supreme executive committee in the rally, and it works to realize the conference resolutions and recommendations. It convenes regularly and deals with all issues concerning higher policies in Tunisia. Its main role is to reactivate the entire partisan system, give it an impetus at this stage of rejuvenation and modification, and also maintain the 7 November principles. [passage omitted]

[AL-MAJALLAH] The party's recent conference appeared to be trying to keep pace with the programs, stands, and decisions announced by President Ben Ali. How will the party be able to implement the declared general policy in the political, economic, social, and educational fields?

[Zouari] Undoubtedly, the stands and resolutions adopted by President Ben Ali have been extensive and rapid. But this does not mean the conference sought to keep pace with these stands and resolutions, because they have been issued by the president within the options of the new era and its trends, which represent the rally's options and inclinations as well. Proof of this is that the rally has adopted President Ben Ali's statement as a working program, to which it is committed and within whose framework it is working. The objective of this work is perpetuating Tunisia's Arabism, defending and boosting Islam, as well as preserving the Arabic language. [passage omitted]

### Cabinet Examines Price Control, Supply Measures

*LD0409012988 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] The Council of Ministers held a meeting at Republic Palace in Carthage last night under the chairmanship of the President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and with Prime Minister Hedi Baccouche in attendance. It was devoted to examining the measures required to help parents overcome the needs of the new academic year, to keep prices down, and to maintain citizens' purchasing power.

Following an assessment of the current economic situation and the effects of the drought on agricultural production and prices, the following measures have been taken:

First, on the new academic year's needs: Care should be taken to furnish the market with scholastic necessities under the best possible conditions and as inexpensively as possible; to grant 15 Tunisian dinars to families that come under the national program for helping poor families with school-age children. This grant should be made before the start of the new academic year.

Second, on prices: To import an additional quantity of vegetable and agricultural products to improve the market supplies and overcome the current production shortage, as well as to lower prices; to create joint committees that would include the administration, farmers, and tradesmen; to follow up the situation and contribute to the effort being exerted to improve market supplies; to call upon craftsmen and tradesmen to play a role in the process of pushing down prices by making a voluntary reduction of 5-10 percent in the prices of some indispensable everyday commodities, particularly scholastic products, clothing and shoes, cleaning products, and some other food products.

President Ben Ali has advised that necessary control measures should be taken to face up to monopolies and speculations for the sake of protecting consumers.

## Western Sahara

### Polisario Says Cease-Fire 'Hurried Prediction'

*LD0209212888 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Following the announcement of Morocco and the Polisario Front's acceptance of [words indistinct], news reverberated that a cease-fire would come into effect after 15 September. However, it seems [words indistinct] that this news is ahead of its time.

The Polisario Front has categorically denied this news. The denial was made by Bachir Mustapha Sayed, the official responsible for foreign relations. He informed the UN secretary general of the Polisario Front's acceptance of the peace proposal put forward by the United Nations. In a news conference held in Algiers yesterday, Bachir Sayed stressed that news of the acceptance of a cease-fire after 15 September is a hurried prediction. The Polisario Front's representative said that the UN secretary general and the current chairmen of the OAU have become committed to persuading Morocco to negotiate directly with the Polisario Front on preparations for a cease-fire. The Saharan official said that the front accepts the peace proposals put forward by Perez de Cuellar on condition that the UN secretary general and the current chairman of the OAU work toward persuading Morocco to negotiate directly with the Polisario Front in order to end the conflict.

Bachir Mustapha Sayed also denied that the UN peace proposal suggests a 75-percent withdrawal of Moroccan forces from the Western desert. The Saharan official said that the document submitted calls for a reduction in the number of Moroccan forces, and he said that we are for a 99 percent withdrawal. Bachir Mustapha Sayed thinks that the Moroccan military presence in the western desert should only be symbolic and that the level should be defined during direct negotiations. For that reason, says the Polisario representative, direct negotiations, which are the decisive factor that would ensure the success of the wise efforts aimed at settling the western desert, are very important. The Saharan official said that the Polisario Front does not reject Moroccan settlements, which should be far removed from the spirit of fanaticism and hatred, so that these may contribute to the efforts of national reconstruction under the shadow of independence.

In reply to a question about the questions that would be contained in a referendum, Bachir Mustapha said that the document only carries two questions: independence or merger with Morocco? [passage omitted]

## Kuwait

### UN Representative Meets With Velayati in Geneva

*LD0709190888 Kuwait KUNA in English 1730 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Geneva, Sept 7 (KUNA)—Kuwait's permanent representative to the United Nations in Geneva Dr Salim Jabir al-Ahmad Al Sabah Wednesday afternoon had talks with Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati.

One purpose of the meeting was to discuss the United Nations-sponsored Geneva negotiations for the implementation of Resolution 598. There was also discussion of bilateral issues.

The meeting took place during the afternoon at the Iranian ambassador's official residence, and Iran's envoy here Sirus Naseri also took part. The Kuwait ambassador has, since the start of the Geneva negotiations, also seen Iraq's foreign minister, Tariq 'Aziz.

### Foreign Minister Flies to Riyadh for GCC Talks

*LD0409095588 Kuwait KUNA in English 0817 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 4 (KUNA)—Deputy Premier, Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad flew to Riyadh Sunday to take part in a session of the GCC Ministerial Council which will examine how the six GCC members can help consolidate peace in the region.

Shaykh Sabah told KUNA at the airport that GCC countries are directly involved in efforts to draw up a peace format and secure safe navigation in the Gulf international waterways. He pointed out that Article 8 of Security Council Resolution 598 stipulates that U.N. Chief Javier Perez de Cuellar should contact countries of the region for drawing up that format. Yet Shaykh Sabah added that Perez de Cuellar had not approached the GCC countries thus far.

The Kuwaiti official said "Though we are not directly taking part in the Geneva negotiations between Iraq and Iran, the Security Council resolution (598) clearly stipulates a role for the Gulf states in securing free navigation in the Gulf and finding a format that would ensure peace and stability in the region."

Asked when the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran would be operational again, Shaykh Sabah said Kuwait had not broken diplomatic ties with Iran. Each country has an embassy at the other "and we have staff working in the Kuwaiti Embassy in Tehran," he added.

Shaykh Sabah was accompanied by a team of Foreign Ministry officials including head of the GCC Affairs Department Khalid al-Jarallah.

## Qatar

### Amir Addresses Arab Issues, Foreign Relations

*JN0309114388 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0920 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] Beirut, 3 Sep (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, has expressed hope that the ongoing talks between Iraq and Iran will produce a comprehensive settlement of the differences between the two countries. In a comprehensive statement to Lebanese magazine AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI to be published on Monday, his highness affirmed Qatar's support for the Palestinian issue. At the same time, the Qatari amir called for reconciliation among the Lebanese as a basic condition to resolve the Lebanese crisis. He pointed out that this reconciliation can only be achieved through an objective dialogue among Lebanese factions taking into consideration higher national interests. Shaykh Hamad praised the GCC's achievements, expressing confidence that the GCC will achieve the objectives for which it was established.

On the issue of establishing relations between Qatar and the USSR, Shaykh Hamad noted that Qatar's decision to establish these relations was an important foreign policy decision. It was the result of a thorough and objective study of the decision from all angles and the result of contacts between the two countries. He denied a link between this and the U.S. position on Qatar after it obtained Stinger missiles.

The Qatari amir began his statement to AL-USBU' AL-'ARABI by talking about the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran. He said: We are very confident that this agreement and the UN-sponsored negotiations will produce a just and comprehensive settlement of the differences between the two Muslim countries. This settlement should preserve their legitimate rights and normalize their relations. Shaykh Hamad affirmed that this settlement will reinforce security, stability, and comprehensive peace in the region. The settlement, he added, will also prepare the appropriate atmosphere to strengthen neighborly and cooperative ties between the two peoples to achieve progress and prosperity in light of religious ties and higher common interests. [passage omitted]

Answering a question on the establishment of relations between Qatar and the USSR and the dimensions of this step, Shaykh Hamad of Qatar said: The decision to establish relations with the USSR was another important foreign policy decision. It was the result of a thorough and objective study of the decision from all angles and the result of contacts between the two countries for a while through which the two countries expressed a desire to establish relations of friendship and cooperation. He added: The press reports which linked this step with the U.S. position on Qatar after it obtained anti-aircraft Stinger missiles are absolutely incorrect. He affirmed that these reports are baseless.

Regarding his expectations on economic cooperation with the USSR and Eastern Bloc countries, Shaykh Hamad said that economic exchanges existed before the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR. He added that it is natural for this cooperation to develop according to the common interests of both countries. He added that there is no doubt that the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR will strengthen cooperation between the two countries in all fields within the framework of the principles defined by the joint Qatari-Soviet statement; that is, the principles of the UN Charter that deal in particular with peaceful coexistence, equality, mutual respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity, and noninterference in internal affairs.

Asked about the relationship with Moscow and Beijing and the possibility of diversifying Qatar's armament sources in the future, Shaykh Hamad said: Qatar's armament policy primarily has two basic objectives—making available the necessary equipment and weapons to reinforce our defensive capabilities on the one hand and meeting the requirements of coordination and integration in the field of defense with sisterly countries—GCC members—on the other.

He added: In light of the distinguished relations of friendship and cooperation linking us with many countries, we do not find any difficulty in securing our defensive requirements without any conditions imposed by the source country. He noted that Qatar does not limit its armaments to one country and has always used diversified sources. The possibility of purchasing arms from new sources in the future depends on events and national and pan-Arab interests.

His Highness Shaykh Hamad dealt with the developments in the Palestinian arena in light of the tendency to declare a Palestinian state. [passage omitted] He said that Qatari policy has always been based on respecting the Palestinian will within the framework of Arab solidarity with the aim of achieving its objective. He said: If Palestinians want to declare a Palestinian state and establish a provisional government, the natural position of Qatar will be to support this preparatory step in order to achieve its basic objective which all Arabs ascribe to; that is, the regaining of all Palestinian rights. [passage omitted]

## Saudi Arabia

### King Fahd Chairs Council of Ministers Session

*LD0509195788 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1655 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 5 Sep (SPA)—King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, presided over the Council of Ministers session this afternoon, Monday, 5 Septemebr at Al-Salam Palace in Jeddah. After the session, Minister of Information Ali al-Sha'ir explained to SPA that at the beginning of today's session the council reviewed, on the king's directive, a summary of the information and political reports on the current situation in the region. The council familiarized itself with these reports on the progress of negotiations in Geneva between the Iraq and Iran delegations under the patronage of the UN secretary general. [passage omitted]

The information minister also said: The council is following with interest those matters relating to the Palestinian people through the moves and efforts currently being undertaken by the PLO leadership in order to achieve solutions. [passage omitted]

### 'Source' Denies Mediation Between U.S., Iran

*LD0609094988 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0340 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Riyadh, 6 Sep (SPA)—A responsible source denied a report to be published by the French magazine JEUNE AFRIQUE in its issue No 144, which comes out tomorrow Wednesday, 7 September, under the headline "A Saudi Mediator Between Washington and Tehran." The source told SPA that the report is totally fabricated and unfounded.

## Yemen Arab Republic

### Ministry Official Leaves for Nicosia Meeting

*JN0609142788 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Ahmad al-Iryani, Foreign Ministry undersecretary, left for Nicosia today at the head of his country's delegation to attend the ministerial conference of the nonaligned countries to be held in the Cypriot capital.

Al-Iryani told SABA' that our country's participation in the conference takes place in light of its foreign policy based on the movement's principles, as well as various activities of the movement's countries. He also pointed out that the conference has special importance because it is being held amid international events that witness growing international detente supported by the nonaligned countries.

The Foreign Ministry undersecretary also said that the conference's agenda contains many issues of interest to the nonaligned countries, including the Palestinian people's cause; the Arab-Israeli conflict; UN efforts in peace negotiations between Iraq and Iran; the situation in Namibia, the southern part of Africa, and Latin America; and other issues of interest to the Nonaligned Movement. He also pointed out that our country's delegation will try to urge the conference to issue positive resolutions to deepen the Nonaligned Movement's principles and strengthen the movement's efforts to cope with international events effectively in order to serve the nonaligned countries and preserve world peace.

## President Assesses Geneva Talks, Other Issues

*JN0709180488 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1643 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has stressed that if the Iranian mentality that we know, is repeated in Geneva, then it will place real obstacles before peace. But if it handles things with reason, then we have a genuine and deep desire to achieve peace between us and Iran, and hence between Iran and the entire Arab nation.

During his meeting with President Husni Mubarak and a number of chief editors of Egyptian newspapers who are accompanying President Husni Mubarak, his excellency said: We have repeatedly declared, and are reiterating, that we do not covet any inch of Iranian territory, irrespective of the military situation. This has been a firm policy from 1980—when the armed conflict began—until today. Following is the text of President Saddam Husayn's interview.

Question: What are the most important points presented by Your Excellency, that you think may threaten the Iraqi-Iranian negotiations in Geneva, and how can these be overcome?

The President: You know that the war lasted 8 years. The first Security Council resolution to stop the war was issued on 28 September 1980. Then, more resolutions were issued after this one, and Iraq accepted them all. The latest resolution issued by the Security Council, which called for the end of the war, was Resolution No 598, which was issued in July 1987. Iraq accepted it, while Iran rejected it. Iran continued to reject it until July 1988. Iran accepted Resolution No 598 after this period of rejection for one obvious reason, which is military. It did not accept it because it discovered that peace is the natural and right law for relations between peoples and nations.

In spite of this, we and the world were cheered by this acceptance. But, it is natural that the two warring sides, who fought for 8 years, must examine each other's intentions. Each of them has the right to examine the intentions. Hence, the Iraq-Iran direct negotiations have begun now. The continuation of direct negotiations and a frank presentation of the problems may lead to a solution. The solution we desire is a comprehensive and complete one that will preserve the rights, sovereignty, and dignity of both countries.

It is still premature to talk about issues that may stop the negotiations. But, naturally, if the Iranian mentality that we know is repeated in Geneva, then it will place real obstacles in the way of peace. But if it handles things with reason, then we have a genuine and deep desire to achieve peace between us and Iran, and hence between Iran and the entire Arab nation.

Question: Mr President, on what bases does Iraq believe that peace with Iran should be reached? Iraq believes that the 1975 agreement no longer exists, and consequently, it believes that peace should be based on new foundations. What are the new bases on which you believe peace should be based?

The president: The bases in the Iraqi stand from 9 September 1980 until today have not changed. The central basis is that Iran lives free on its land, sovereign over its territory and all that it possesses. By the same token, the Arabs and Iraq live in the same spirit and on the same basis free on their land without Iran's interference in their way of life and internal affairs or encroachment on their sovereignty. These bases were included in our 6 August letter and accordingly the cease-fire was achieved and direct talks began. Therefore, Iran is required to deal with peace in a new spirit. It should respect Iraq's complete rights, and Iraq also respects its complete rights. Any attempt to encroach on Iraq's rights will only lead to illusion.

With regard to relations between Iraq and Iran, even when Iraq was a part of the Ottoman state, there were agreements between the two countries, and Iran continuously and unilaterally abrogated them to change the situation and take new land at the expense of Iraq. In 1847 the Ardrom aggreement was signed; in 1913 the Constantine protocol was signed; and in 1914 the borders were demarcated and Iran asked for this change.

After putting pressure on the Iraqi Government, the 1937 agreement was reached. Iran then unilaterally abrogated the 1937 agreement under well known circumstances, including interference in our internal affairs in the northern part of the homeland and the employment of some agents from the Kurds. The 1975 agreement was then reached. The 1975 agreement and its supplementary protocols were established in 1976. Khomeyni has rejected the agreement since 1979. He made a statement to this effect. Even before Khomeyni and his assistants came to power, they considered the agreement suspect and rejected it. They did not recognize it. When they came to power and the shah was overthrown, they continued to attack the agreement on every occasion and at all levels, beginning with Khomeyni and ending with officials from the Interior and Foreign Ministries.

The agreement includes three basic articles that are inseparable according to a fourth article. The violation of any of the three basic articles is considered a violation of all of them. These articles are: Iran should return the land that it seized from Iraq; it should stop interfering in Iraq's internal affairs; and it should demarcate the border on the basis of the thalweg, that is, the middle and deepest line in Shatt al-'Arab. Iran violated the agreement in words when it rejected the agreement and considered it suspect. We directed the following written question to Iran at that time: Do you consider the agreement vaild or abrogated? They answered us with vilifications. They then began to interfere in our internal affairs and employ the same agents that the shah used in northern Iraq. Hence, they violated two articles of the agreement, which consists of three articles, made public statements against the agreement, and failed to voice their commitment to it when a written question was addressed to them in this regard through the Foreign Minsitry asking them whether they consider the agreement to be still valid or not. Besides, they started the military aggression against Iraq which continued for 8 years before the current situation was reached. As a matter of fact, the document called the Algiers agreement of 1975 has become a thing of the past. They unilaterally abrogated the agreement of 1937. So logic dictates that a new agreement should be made. As for us, we have announced more than once and state again that we do not covet any inch of Iranian territory, regardless of the military situation. This has been a firm policy pursued since 1980; namely, when the armed strugle began up to this point. In sum, this is our position.

Question: Your Excellency, what is the truth regarding what is currently taking place in northern Iraq?

The president: This is what is happening: A group of collaborators was used by Iran along with its occupation army to harm Iraq's military efforts in northern Iraq. When the Iranian Army was expelled from the borders, naturally this group of collaborators lost any military might that would make it capable of confronting our Army. Therefore, it collapsed. And when our Army advanced toward the Turkish borders to purge areas there of their remnants, they used threats to intimidate some villages, telling them that the Iraqi Army is coming and that it might destroy villages and slay their residents, as the Iraqi Army would allegedly think of them as outlaws. However, there is nothing in the history of the Iraqi Army even in the worst cases in which it harmed a child, a woman, or an old man or perpetrated a similar practice. Some of these village residents escaped or entered Turkish territory under the duress of the saboteurs, who sought to use them to protect themselves from any Army strikes, considerating that they have children and women and also for other motives.

Hence, after Iraq had affirmed its strength and capability, it announced an amnesty that even included the sabotage leaders. I think that you heard of the amnesty. It is a complete and comprehensive amnesty, which is to be enjoyed by all except one man. There are two reasons for this exception, despite the fact that the statement issued only gave one reason. The second reason is that, when that man was asked whether he considers collaboration with Iran treason, considering that his country is at war with it, he responded by saying: No, I do not consider this treason, because I—Jalal Talabani—am not an Iraqi, something that would render my collaboration a sort of treason. Because he does not consider himslef an Iraqi, he was not a traitor when he sided with Iran. Accordingly, we said that he is excluded from the amnesty.

Question: Regional groupings now appear in North Africa and the Arab Maghreb states, and in the Gulf there is the GCC. Now that Iraq has triumphed in its glorious war, is there any idea about unionist plans within the Arab region?

The president: Let us always talk about Arab cooperation rather than use constitutional expressions or the prevalent expressions. The basis, in my evaluation, is that Egypt itself has passed through experiences on the level of constitutional relations, including the establishment of several unions. Question: President Saddam Husayn, many unions were set up and did not work out.

The president: Now there is no constitutional formula of a union between us and Egypt. However, objectively speaking, I believe that the relationship between the Iraqi and Egyptian peoples and between the two leaderships in Baghdad and Cairo is stronger than any union set up previously between any two Arab countries on the level of a constitutional relationship.

Therefore, let us begin with fraternal cooperation among all of us as Arabs. It is natural that cooperation always takes on the characteristics of the type of ties between two or more countries. It is possible for relations between Egypt and Iraq to advance three or four steps forward, whereas it may advance seven steps rather than three or four between Egypt and another country. It may also advance only two steps instead of three or four. In this manner, relations grow on social, economic, cultural, and other levels. They grow any time there is a genuine desire by two or more countries to turn this cooperation into firm legal or constitutional frameworks. There will be no objection to this when this is the desire of the people and of the true leaderships of these states.

Question: President Saddam Husayn, we know that the Iran-Iraq war is actually an Iranian-Arab war that began in Iraq. In light of the war experience and after peace is established, God willing, how do you visualize the Arab role and the Arab position so that it [not further identified] will not be repeated.

The president: Our visualization is that the pan-Arab role that emerged during the battle should grow and become stronger and stronger. Arab brothers, including Brother President Husni Mubarak and the Egyptian people, had a pan-Arab position in both their concept and behavior. Yesterday, I said that some of them used to supply Iraq with capabilities other than the traditional ones before Iraq asked for them. Such a pan-Arab position is required to grow, become more active, spread, and be generalized so that it will become the position of us all as Arabs. When this becomes a prominent Arab position, I do not think that a country neighboring the Arab nation will again make a mistake and act aggressively toward any Arab country. Thank you very much. My greetings to the Egyptian brothers.

## Letter to UN Affirms Iran's 'Nonbelief' in Peace

*JN0709192188 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA)—Iraq has notified the UN secretary general of official Iranian statements confirming Iran's nonbelief in peace and nonrespect for international agreements and charters.

An official Iraqi letter conveyed by the Iraqi permanent UN representative to Perez de Cuellar stresses that what the Iranian regime actually seeks through its talk about peace is a truce to rebuild its forces and equip them with all weapons, including chemical, biological, and even nuclear weapons, to launch a new armed aggression against Iraq. [passage omitted]

The full text of the Iraqi letter to the UN secretary general follows:

Your Excellency, upon instructions by my governmenmt, I have the honor to notify you that Tehran Radio aired on 2 September 1988 an interview with Mohsen Rafiqdust, minister of the IRGC in the Tehran government, in which he talked about many things, none of which referred to an intention to work for peace.

Minister Rafiqdust reiterated his appeal to the Iranian people to head for the fronts and to prepare for combat against Iraq. He said: we would like very much to be asked to carry out operations to prove to the enemy what our current situation is. He also said: Being on the front before Hizbollah men is much more difficult than a state of war. We want them to suffer this difficulty and to be fully prepared. We want to impose peace on the enemy through our force and capability.

These remarks indicate that the peace the Iranian regime wants is a peace imposed by force, not a comprehensive and just peace through direct negotiations guaranteeing the legitimate rights of both parties to the dispute.

It is noteworthy that after reviewing the Iranian military industries in detail as well as the ongoing preprations to equip his forces with these weapons in preparation for a new round of war, the minister said: There is a group of [words indistinct], chemical, biological, and nuclear industries.

Such a flagrant statement by the Iranian official reflects the methods of Iranian trickery and hypocrisy in leveling false accusations against Iraq while the Iranian regime continues to manufacture weapons of comprehensive destruction, including chemical weapons, about which he admitted: We do not have any scientific problems regarding the production of chemical weapons.

The Iranian minister's statement also reflects the Iranian regime's complete disregard for international agreements and treaties. While he announces the presence of a nuclear weapons industry, he ignores the fact that Iran is a singnatory to the treaty for the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons, according to which it pledged not to acquire or make such weapons. He also revealed a biological industry, ignoring the fact that Iran is a signatory to the international agreement preventing the invention, production, and storing of bateriological and toxic weapons and stipulating the destruction of those weapons—an agreement that became effective in 1975. Thus, the Iranian regime once again proves through one of its officials its nonbelief in peace and nonrespect for international agreements and charters. It also proves that what it really seeks through its talk about peace is a truce to rebuild its forces and equip them with all kinds of weapons—including chemical, biological, and even nuclear weapons—and to wage a new armed aggression against Iraq.

The danger of this information has forced us to present it to you, hoping that Your Excellency will see that it is distributed among the UN Security Council member states. Yours sincerely,

[Signed] The Permanent Representative, 5 September 1988

## Minister Says Iran Not Taking Talks 'Seriously'

*LD0409092688 Kuwait KUNA in English 0813 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Kuwait, Sept 4 (KUNA)—Iraqi Minister of Information and Culture Latif Jasim was quoted here as saying that Iran is not taking the Geneva peace negotiations seriously.

Jasim, in a lengthy interview with the local daily AL-QABAS published Sunday, said the Iranian regime is planning to take advantage of a "temporary truce" rather than discussing the core of the Security Council's Resolution 598. The Iranian method of negotiations has been "deceptive and evasive", said the Iraqi official who said Tehran was aiming at confusing the world public opinion.

Jasim, reviewing the chronology of Iranian-Iraqi agreements, said his country calls for concluding a new joint agreement instead of the one held in 1975, of which he held Iran responsible for abrogation. Such an agreement, if signed, will be guaranteed by Iraq's economic amd military power as well as the power of the Iraqi people and its inalienable rights, he added.

Iran's slogan of "export of revolution" has been broken because there has been no more a revolution in Iran, Jasim said, noting the remaining regime is "shaky and void of any social, economic or political essence."

Regarding prospective future contradictions in the ranks of the Iranian regime, Jasim did not rule out such internal conflicts due to its paralyzed leadership, various centers of powers and its failure to extend any achievement in faovur of the Iranian people.

## RCC Statement on General Amnesty for Kurds

*JN0609125888 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[RCC statement issued in Baghdad on 6 September]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Great Iraqi people, in July 1968, your revolution took place to draw for you a new course for dignity and prosperity in all walks of life, away from all the steep, rough lanes which diverted the Iraqis from the course which does them justice. The revolution and its leadership has coped with the tasks of not only fulfilling the aspirations which become you, but also dealing with all the vestiges of failure, deviation, default, and error as well as with everyone who failed, deviated, defaulted, and erred. Among those vestiges was the Kurdish issue and all its viscissitudes and complications.

While Mustafa Barzani and his party, or the party which formed an alliance with him then, had agreed to take part in the government which traitor 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Nayif had headed under well-known circumstances, and pledged to maintain peace and order and refrain from anything that might disturb the peace, Barzani and his band turned against the revolution as soon as it got rid of the traitorous parasites. Thus, he began setting conditions which would only have inflamed the fighting in northern Iraq and maintained the river of blood, which flowed from the bodies of the Iraqis regardless of their nationality.

We, and the devout conscientious sons of our people, were able to distinguish between what was logical, right, and Iraqi in the political current in the autonomous region, where the advocates of the current were united then under the flag of Barzani, and what was suspect, secessionist, and agent in that current.

In order to separate the good Kurds from those who were traitors in mind and at heart and preferred to carry out the orders of the foreigner, and in order to take all the necessary actions so that Iraq would not assume responsibility for the many bad consequences which benefited the foreigners, and as an expression of the revolution's course and great principles, the RCC decided in March 1974 to apply autonomy.

While some people thought that Barzani and his collaborators would rejoice the autonomy which Iraq alone among the states that include Kurds had applied, Barzani and his collaborators went about resisting the autonomy and fighting the revolution's authority backed by the shah of Iran as a direct field ally for everyone who sought to harm Iraq and the Arab nation.

Matters reached the serious point of threatening the people's gains and their new course for a happy life. Thus, we were forced to reach a solution under which the shah of Iraq was granted the thalweg in the Shatt al-'Arab as a result of the treasons of the traitorous line in the Kurdish movement and their alliance with the shah of Iran and his overlords.

In that battle which lasted for 1 year—from March 1974 to March 1975—our army suffered over 16,000 casualties. With the fall of the excuses of the shah of Iran with that agreement and with his abandonment of the horse of wickedness and agentry, Barzani and his supporters, the criminal agents in the northern area of the homeland, collapsed and their rifles fell to the ground all in disgrace and humiliation in less than 7 days, except for those who crossed the border with their weapons into Iran.

This was further evidence for those who needed more about the connection of this type of movement with foreign powers, their schemes and goals, and the evil timing of their practices. However, under all those difficult circumstances, and while the agents were falling on the path of agentry they had opted for, we used to find some [Kurds] who separated to join the march of the revolution and purify themselves from disgrace. The good Kurds, in all cases and circumstances, fought against the renegade agents alongside our valiant Armed Forces. Their blood has mixed with the blood of our people's martyrs and wounded from the Armed Forces.

During our people's experience in defending their land, honor, and holy places in the second Al-Qadisiyah, the hireling agents tried their luck once again. Our people and Armed Forces had a bitter experience similar in its results to our experience with the Tehran regime. They stabbed our Armed Forces in the back while they were defending the homeland and the sacred objectives and principles. The pain of our good people was great and their wounds deep, especially when the stabs were directed against our people and against our Armed Forces while our Armed Forces were confronting an armed offensive by the Iranian enemy aimed at capturing the land and cities of the Kurdistan autonomous region.

They have been the meanest and lowliest guides of the Khomeyni forces to the cities and villages of the autonomous region. God has disappointed the hopes of the evil ones after He revealed all corners of darkness and agentry in their minds and deeds, and after they reaped failure along with the regime of charlatans, who treacherously wanted to humiliate the Iraqi people, and were defeated and pushed back together outside the border. The curse of God be upon them until the day of judgment.

O honorable and glorious Iraqis. We know the extent of pain you feel, and we know and understand the anger in your hearts. We know and do not forget the series of tragedies caused by those evil men who betrayed their people and the homeland. However, as you know we act on the basis of the responsiblity and trust you placed on us, and on the basis of awareness of all the meanings and factors of what will become history in your march and in the march of the revolution. We are striving to do all that pleases God according to the provisions of His laws, thus acknowledging your magnanimity of forgiving when in a position of strength, and opening the door to the misguided even if they be among the vilest of people and the most accursed. If they are cleansed then all of us will benefit from such a result. If they should return to the path of treason and humiliation then they are meaner than the meanest of contemptible creatures in the face of your great march and mighty will sheltered by God's acceptance and care.

Consequently, the RCC has decided to issue a general and comprehensive amnesty for Iraqi Kurds from any legal prosecution for any action punishable under the law committed prior to this statement, be they outside or inside Iraq. Those who want to benefit from the amnesty must return to the homeland within 30 days of the date of the statement and their departure from the homeland will be guaranteed if they have work, study, or similar obligations which they want to continue.

The RCC has also decided to pardon Iraqi Kurds who have been imprisoned or detained, to close their cases, and to release them immediately unless they have been sentenced or are wanted for cases other than those we mentioned. Only the traitor Jalal Talabani is exempted from this amnesty, not only for his treason and known agentry but also because he has betrayed his promises and pledges more than once when he was given generous opportunities in the past.

O glorious and good Iraqis everywhere, be you in the autonomous region or in other parts of the dear homeland. In all circumstances and conditions, the position of the good among you will remain different from those who harmed Iraq and lost the way, even when they return to the correct path voluntarily or because they have been compelled to do so. Just as there are degrees of believers among you there is always a difference between those who fought in defense of Iraq and those who fought those who defended Iraq. The difference will remain as long as we live, and it will be preserved by subsequent generations in word and in deed alongside the glorious pages history will record in your name. The best expression of your capability and magnanimity is that you give shelter to those who had once done harm so that they live within the course of life charted by your great revolution and within the proud homeland which does not submit to the foreigner. God is great, and shame to the ignonimous.

[Signed] The Revolution Command Council, 6 September 1988 corresponding to 25 Muharram 1409 Hijra

## 'Astray' Kurds Praise Decison

*JN0709135388 Baghdad INA in English 1334 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept. 7, INA—The Progressive, Patriotic and National Front and Kurdish personalities highly appreciated the Revolution Command Council resolution granting general amnesty to all astray Iraqi Kurds. They stressed that the decision embodies the humanitarian aspect of the glorious July 17-30 revolution and opens prospects for those who strayed to serve the homeland and contribute to the march of progress and construction.

Mr. Sirwan al-Jaff, chairman of the Executive Council of the autonomus rule area of Kurdistan described the decision as an embodiment of the humanitarian course of the party and revolution leadership and a strong slap to the enemies of Iraq.

He added that while Iraqi Kurds enjoy full political and national rights, the Kurds in Iran face horrible types of persecution at the hands of the criminal Khomeyni regime pointing out that Kurds there are deprived even from education in their national languge. Mr. al-Jaff stressed allegiance of Kurdish masses to the leadership of peace and victory-maker President Saddam Husayn and their high preparedeness to defend Iraq and principles and accomplishments of the July 17-30 revolution.

Mr. Abd Al-'Aziz Khushnaw, member of the Kurdistan Democratic Party [KDP] said the resolution was an opportunity to astray Kurds to return to the national rank to effectively contribute in the process of construction and defence of great Iraq.

Mr. Ahmad Ramadan, official in charge of the Autonomy Rule Organization of the KDP said the resolution was a sincere embodiment of the noble principles of the 17th-30th July revolution led by the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party and President Saddam Husayn.

## 2 Border Posts Open To Receive Returning Kurds

*JN0809062588 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Kirkuk, 7 Sep (INA)—The opening of two border posts, one with Turkey and the other with Iraq, to facilitate the return of Iraqi Kurds affected by the general amnesty issued by the RCC was announced here today. 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, regional command member and secretary of the office of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Northern Organization, said that those covered by the amnesty who are outside Iraq can cross from the Ibrahim al-Khalil post in the Dahuk Governorate on the Iraqi-Turkish border, and the Halabjah-Nowsud post in the Al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate on the Iraqi-Iranian border.

The announcement was made during an expanded meeting held by 'Ali Hasan Al-Majid in Kirkuk today. The meeting was attended by the governors of the northern governorates, the secretaries of party branches in these governorates, and the commanders of the I Army Corps and the V Army Corps.

It was decided at the meeting to form central committees whose task will be to receive those returning to the national ranks from outside Iraq. Details of the plans for receiving the returnees were (?drawn up).

## Egypt's Mubarak Arrives for Official Talks

### Arrives 7 Sep

*NC0709084488 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0840 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 7 Sep (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Baghdad this morning on a visit to Iraq. He was received at the airport by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

### Al-Baz Makes Statement

*NC0709155688 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1510 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Sep (MENA)—Dr Usamah al-Baz, first undersecretary of the Egyptian Foreign Ministry and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has stated that during their talks in Baghdad today President Husni Mubarak and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn discussed the peace talks currently taking place between Iraq and Iran in Geneva and present conditions in all parts of the Arab homeland.

In a statement to MENA correspondent in Baghdad, Dr Usamah al-Baz said that Presidents Mubarak and Husayn also discussed the situation in the occupied Arab territories and the need to support the fraternal Palestinian people's struggle in resisting occupation and rejecting Israeli domination. Dr Usamah al-Baz added that the two leaders discussed the situation in Lebanon and the need to enable the Lebanese people to freely elect their president and end the sectarian sedition and partitioning attempts.

He went on to say that the two presidents also discussed the special relations of cooperation between Iraq and Egypt. Dr Usamah al-Baz stated that the two presidents have agreed to give this cooperation a new momentum during the phase of peace, as there are extensive areas for Iraqi-Egyptian work in reconstruction, in development of production systems, and in raising the standard of services in the two fraternal countries, as well as in increasing interaction between the official and popular establishments in the two countries so that the Egyptian-Iraqi cooperation may be a model for the relationship that should prevail among all the peoples of the Arab nation in order to achieve a strong and cohesive Arab front capable of confronting challenges.

### Talks on Regional Stability Held

*JN0709161888 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1443 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA)—Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Baghdad this afternoon following a 1-day visit to Iraq.

Meanwhile, a round of official talks between the two fraternal countries was held. The Iraqi side was headed by President Saddam Husayn, while the Egyptian side was headed by Mr Muhammad Husni Mubarak.

Mr Muhammad Husni Mubarak extended the congratulations of Egypt—president, government, and people—to President Saddam Husayn on Iraq's clear victory under President Saddam Husayn. He considered this victory a victory for all Arabs and one that consolidates the Arabs' status and capability. He also considered it a decisive factor in achieving stability in the region, maintaining its national security, and warding off the danger of foreign intervention in its affairs. The talks also dealt with the close brotherly relations between the two fraternal countries as well as the Arab situation in general.

The talks were attended on the Iraqi side by Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information and acting foreign minister; Ahmad Husayn, head of the president's office; Brigadier General Husayn Kamil, minister of industry and military industrialization; the president's secretary; and the Iraqi ambassador in Cairo. The talks were attended on the Egyptian side by the delegation accompanying President Muhammad Husni Mubarak comprising Dr Kamal al-Janzuri, deputy prime minister and foreign minister [as received]; Dr Eng Sulayman Mutawalli Sulayman, minister of transport and communications; Dr Usamah al-Baz, head of the president's office for political affairs; Dr Zakariya 'Azmi, secretary general of the president's office; Jamal al-Din 'Abd al-'Aziz, the president's secretary; Dr Mustafa al-Faqi, the president's secretary for information and follow-up; Brigadier General Mustafa Shafiq, the president's secretary for military affairs; and the Egyptian ambassador in Baghdad.

President Saddam Husayn hosted a grand dinner banquet in honor of his brother, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak. It was attended by the members of the Iraqi and Egyptian delegations to the talks. It was also attended by the RCC members, the ministers, and a number of state officials. President Saddam Husayn presented President Muhammad Husni Mubarak as a gift an Iraqi-made sniper rifle produced by the military industrialization factories.

Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Iraq this morning on a visit to the country. His excellency was granted a grand official welcome led by President Saddam Husayn.

Also welcoming President Muabrak were Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister; Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, RCC member and vice president; a number of RCC members; Latif Nusayyif

Jasim, minister of culture and information, acting foreign minister, and head of the escort mission accompanying the guest president; Ahmad Husayn, head of the president's office; the ministers; the president's secretary; and the Egyptian ambassador in Baghdad and the embassy staff.

Following a short rest at the grand hall of honor, during which President Saddam Husayn and his brother, Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, exchanged cordial talks, President Saddam Husayn accompanied his guest on a tour of Baghdad during which Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak saw Baghdad's traditional and cultural sites.

## Saddam Husayn Pardons 'All Convicted Egyptians'

*JN0709163288 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1550 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 7 Sep (INA)—President Saddam Husayn ordered that all convicted Egyptians be pardoned and that incomplete interrogations of others be closed. This came on the occasion of Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak's visit to Iraq to extend congratulations on our clear and great victory—a victory for every Arab.

## Sa'dun Hammadi Leaves To Meet With Shultz

*JN0509082288 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0755 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Sep (INA)—Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of state for foreign affairs, left for Washington this morning on a visit of several days to the United States. In a predeparture statement to INA, Sa'dun Hammadi said that during the visit he will hold talks with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz on Iraq's stand on the essential issues in the ongoing direct negotiations with Iran in Geneva. This meeting comes as part of contacts with the foreign ministers of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council to this effect. The Iraqi minister said that Iraq affirmed more than once that the comprehensive and lasting peace can only be achieved through resolving all problems that caused the war.He added that these problems must be discussed to reach an agreement on them.

## 2 'Foreign' Ships Sail From Iraqi Ports

*JN0709104388 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Basra, 7 Sep (INA)—Two foreign ships have set sail from the Iraqi ports of Umm Qasr and Khawr al-Zubayr. The two ships have been anchored in these two ports since the beginning of the Iranian aggression against Iraq over 8 years ago.

Citing a source at the State Organization for Maritime Transport in Basra, an INA correspondent said that the Panamanian ship "Christened" and the Cypriot ship "Dimitrios" [names as received] left the aforementioned ports at 1330 [0930 GMT] yesterday after the completion of technical checks on them.

This brings the number of ships that have sailed from Iraqi ports to 5 since the cease-fire between Iraq and Iran went into effect on 20 August. The three ships which sailed previously were the Iraqi ships "Khawlah", "Al-Idrisi", and "'Ayn Zalah".

## Leaders Comment on Reagan Call for Peace Talks

### Shamir 'Not Pleased'

*TA0709183788 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] Sources close to Shamir said he is not pleased about the proposed meeting [between U.S. President Reagan, Foreign Minister Peres, and Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Majid]. The sources suspected that the initiative may have come from Peres rather than Reagan. But, of course Peres has to go to the UN, the sources said, so the meeting could not be stopped. [passage omitted]

### Peres Welcomes Opportunity

*TA0709155388 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] A new political storm in Israel has been caused by the invitation of Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to a meeting in New York with President Reagan and the Egyptian foreign minister. Peres considers the meeting as a way to advance the peace process, whereas his political adversaries claim it is an election maneuver. Our correspondent Yaron Kulas has the details:

[Begin recording] [Kulas] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres is to leave for the UN General Assembly session at the end of this month. He is scheduled to meet the foreign ministers of Britain, Yugoslavia, Romania, Hungary, Turkey, and Poland. During the last 10 days, however, Washington has started initiating contacts toward convening a tripartite summit between President Reagan and the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers. Reagan wants to discuss with the two the continuation of the peace process in the region. Despite the fact that the Tabah arbitration decision is scheduled to be published on 29 September, this issue is not on the agenda.

The planning of this meeting, which was initially meant to include Secretary Shultz, Peres, and Al-Majid, started 2 weeks ago. Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has apparently been informed about the contacts. Foreign Minister Peres welcomes the initiative:

[Peres] I welcome this opportunity. I welcome the President's initiative. I think that the peace process must go on regardless of the elections. I regard positively every contribution and every effort to maintain it.

[Kulas] [Passage omitted] Political sources in Jerusalem said today that they do not expect a political breakthrough as a result of this meeting. They said that no breakthrough is possible a few weeks before the elections. [end recording]

### Peres Interviewed on Talks

*TA0809071188 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Telephone interview with Shim'on Peres, vice prime minister and foreign minister, by Mikha Friedman and Ya'el Dan—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, good morning.

[Peres] Good morning.

[Friedman] Since the technical details are so significant, can you tell us when it was that you learned of President Reagan's intention to summon you and your Egyptian counterpart to a meeting?

[Peres] The Voice of Israel announced this morning that the Israeli ambassador to the United States briefed both the prime minister and me that such a possibility exists. I learned the concrete details, however, such as the date and the participants' identity, from the Voice of Israel report.

[Friedman] That means that, in fact, both you and Shamir found out the full scope of the issue only yesterday.

[Peres] I heard of the concrete details only yesterday, although we both learned of the intention 1 month ago.

[Friedman] Is there any new proposal or a definite political initiative on the agenda?

[Peres] First of all, I do not have full information regarding the meeting's agenda. I believe, however, that keeping the peace process alive is a sufficiently important goal for holding a meeting. It is inconceivable that people should be struck by hysteria each time someone suggests trying to see what can be done to promote the peace process. I still remember the unprecedented scandal 1 year ago, when a Cabinet minister traveled to the United States—that was long before the elections—to prevent the visit of Mr Shultz, who intended to present a plan to enable us to launch negotiations with Jordan and which could, perhaps, prevent the intifada [uprising]. The Cabinet members, myself included, were told that he was making a trip for the bonds. That was 1 year prior to the elections. Why did they attempt to foil the move at that time? What is the difference?

[Friedman] Are you referring to Minister Arens' visit to the United States?

[Peres] I mean Minister Arens, absolutely so.

[Dan] Mr Peres, in what way can this meeting be significant for the peace process, mainly in view of the fact that we are now on the eve of the elections?

[Peres] The peace process needs a constant search for ideas and openings. Perhaps this could be done just among ourselves in Israel; we could simply negotiate with each other, but I believe it is most important to hear the stands of the Egyptians and the Americans. After all, the Egyptians maintain close ties with Jordan, and the Unites States maintains similarly close ties with the Soviet Union. Like every Israeli, I am very interested in learning from them exactly where we stand.

[Dan] Do you not think you are thus cooperating with President Reagan's election campaign?

[Peres] I have not heard anyone propose that we sever our relations with the U.S. Administration until it leaves the White House. This is a fantastic notion. The present Administration will remain there until the end of January. During my last visit to the United States, I spoke with Mr Dukakis. Mr Rabin has met with him. I can say in general that we are on good terms with both parties.

[Dan] This is not what I meant.

[Peres] I do understand that you meant something worse.

[Friedman, laughing] You did say it as a joke, did you not?

[Peres] Right. But listen, why look for the evil side in everything? Why the constant suspicion that attempts are being made to dupe or deceive? What do you need this for? It is very normal to maintain relations as long as the administration exists, and it is more than normal to want to hold meetings with the President and the foreign minister in such circumstances. This in no way prevents good relations with the other party.

[Friadman] Do you believe that in 4 weeks, when you return home from the meeting, you will be able to say: There, we have achieved a breakthrough in the Middle East peace process?

[Peres] No, I am not in the habit of using such expbessions. There was a breakthrough in the peace process 1 year ago. Unfortunately, not everyone realized the significance of that development in time. As I said, the move was foiled. Achieving a breakthrough is not enough; someone must want to walk down the path that has been opened. I am not impressed by the fact that some of the Likud ministers become hysterical and make derogatory remarks because it does not suit their narrow party interests.

[Friedman] Does this mean that you are aware of the fact that it cill be impossible to achieve much before our elections?

[Peres] First of all, I know no such thing. I am no prophet, and the prophecies of others leave no impression on me. All I know is that we have to make a supreme effort to keep the peace process alive. This also is an important goal.

[Friedman] Will you also meet with a senior Jordanian official before the Israeli elections?

[Peres] Do you want advance information already? [general laughter] No, I have no such plans.

[Friedman] Shim'on Peres, foreign minister and vice prime minister, thank you very much.

[Peres] Thank you.

## Levi Criticizes Talks

*TA0709145988 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1430 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has invited the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers for a meeting in New York at the end of September. Mr Reagan, Shim'on Peres, and 'Ismat 'Abd al-Majid will discuss the peace process in the Middle East and the Tabah arbitration decision, which is officially scheduled to be made public on 29 September.

Tehiya Knesset Member Ge'ula Kohen said in reaction that what Mr Reagan calls a forum for thought is a code name for the United States and Egypt joining the Alignment election campaign. The Foreign Ministry's reaction is that this is just another case of Ge'ula Kohen hysterics, which comes about every time there is a chance for peace.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi says that such a meeting a few weeks before the elections is not a bad joke, but rather an amazing evidence of domestic and foreign political irresponsibility.

## Moda'i Says Timing Wrong

*TA0809092088 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Telephone interview with Minister Without Portfolio Yitzhaq Moda'i by Mikha Friedman and Ya'el Dan—live]

[Excerpts] [Friedman] Good morning, Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i.

[Moda'i] Good morning.

[Friedman] You have heard the interview with Foreign Minister Peres.

[Moda'i] Yes, I have.

[Friedman] We understand from the Likud's reactions as published so far—and we will hear yours soon—that the timing is the crucial point here, even though the issue at stake is a matter as vital to us as the peace. Had Yitzhaq Shamir received an invitation such as Peres has, would he not have accepted it at this time?

[Moda'i] First of all, what do you mean that you understand? It is perfectly clear that all his pretexts are absolutely ridiculous. As for a meeting between Yitzhaq Shamir and Reagan, the fact is that Yitzhaq Shamir is the prime minister, not Shim'on Peres. Were he to meet with the President, it would be absolutely natural.

[Friedman] Reagan summoned the foreign ministers, however. This is the way he wanted it.

[Moda'i] Yes, yes, Reagan did summon the foreign ministers. Yesterday I heard the Israeli foreign minister's reaction, in which he said that he learned about the meeting from the radio. Can you imagine Reagan extending an invitation without prior coordination? What would he do if Shim'on Peres declined, God forbid?

[Friedman] Peres has now corrected his remarks by saying that he had an inkling of the issue 1 month ago, as did Yitzhaq Shamir.

[Moda'i] He said two things today. First of all, the very fact that he made amendments is most suspicious. What is all this? When a man is asked whether he knew of something, he says he did not know, and then he comes and corrects himself by saying: I am sorry; I did know. This has some implications at least in the field of integrity.

As for the reports that the prime minister also knew of the invitation: I have spoken with the prime minister, and I am telling you with full responsibility for my words that the prime minister knew absolutely nothing about this meeting. Therefore, the attempt to implicate the prime minister in this affair along with him [Peres] is...[changes thought] This is not the first time it has happened. I know the man very well.

[Dan] Mr Moda'i, beyond all that, what is it that you want from the foreign minister? He did not initiate the meeting; he has been invited. What pretext should he have used to decline?

[Moda'i] What we want him to do is one thing only: take a one-way trip. We would not mind that.

[Friedman] You are a Cabinet member. Do you or one of your colleagues intend to propose that Peres be prevented from meeting with the U.S. President and the Egyptian foreign minister?

[Moda'i] No, God forbid, we will not prevent it. He has already been responsible for many things which we tried and failed to prevent, which were against Israel's interests.

[Dan] Perhaps Peres will indeed steal the show, as you fear. With all due respect to the elections, however, is peace not more important?

[Moda'i] Peace? Peres will travel to New York to meet with a President who will no longer be president 1 month after the meeting, and—hocus pocus—peace will arrive? Such terrible urgency! Let us exchange ideas 3 weeks before the elections! Gentlemen, the thing is so obvious, I don't know why you are asking all these questions.

[Friedman] The question is how long before the elections all efforts should be ceased.

[Moda'i] This question does not arise at all. The whole matter was prearranged, and it is absolutely transparent. It was prearranged for the sake of the elections. The attempts to involve an external factor in internal elections are something that is not done in the world of democracy. This is not the first time he has tried to involve external factors. What was the international conference but an attempt to bring in external elements that would force us to accept Peres' stands on an international issue? [passage omitted]

[Friedman] To conclude the interview, it would be most natural for you to say that Prime Minister Shamir will abstain from traveling to Hungary so many weeks before the elections.

[Moda'i] My dear friend, how can you compare a trip to Hungary with a visit for alleged peace talks with the U.S. President? How can you compare the two?

[Friedman] Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i, thank you very much.

[Moda'i] Thank you.

### Foreign Ministry Reacts

*TA0809100288 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew*
*0600 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] We have just received a reaction to a reaction: Reacting to remarks made by Shim'on Peres on this program, Minister Moda'i said: I have spoken with the prime minister, and I am telling you with full responsibility for my words: The prime minister knew absolutely nothing about this meeting. The foreign minister's office has just told us that as early as 19 August, the Israeli Embassy in the United States dispatched cables to the directors general of both the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry, notifying them of Secretary Shultz' initiative for a meeting between the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers. Shultz asked that the initiative be relayed to the prime minister and the vice prime minister.

## Shamir Comments on PLO Opposition in Interview

*AU0709113288 Vienna Television Service in German 1010 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Interview with Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by Austrian television reporter Hans Benedict; date and place not given—recorded; in English with superimposed German translation; passages in English in italics]

[Text] [Benedict] Mr Prime Minister, I want you to ask a question that is very sensitive just now. *What are you going to do* if the PLO and *Yasir 'Arafat say the following:* First, *we hereby cease the war against Israel; second, there will be no longer any violence between us and Israel;* third, we accept the existence of the State of Israel in accordance with UN Resolutions 242 and 388; fourth, on this basis we offer direct peace negotiations to Israel.

[Shamir] This will never happen.

[Benedict] Are you really sure?

[Shamir] *I am sure, because I know the man. I know the man, I know his philosophy, I know his ideology.* He will never do that. It would be against his principles, *against his whole weltanschauung.* And it is known that one cannot expect 'Arafat to bring a message of peace to Israel. For him *the task of his life is to destroy Israel. He would like to have peace* in the Middle East, but without Israel.

[Benedict] Mr Prime Minister, despite your refusal, which is not unexpected, it now looks as if the PLO and, in particular, Yasir 'Arafat are preparing a *large-scale, global PLO peace campaign.*

[Shamir] This is an invention of the media.

[Benedict] And when 'Arafat soon offers peace at the European Parliament—will this also be an invention of the media, in your view?

[Shamir] *Of course,* when he is invited he says something. He is very much in favor of being invited by international organizations *in Europe or in America, but he will not bring any new messages to them. He is very faithful to his theories, he will not change them.* It is his vocation to bring about Israel's destruction, so that Israel disappears. *He will not give this up and, of course, he is ready* to use any kind of tactics for this purpose, because *he is not committed to anybody to be sincere.*

[Benedict] Is the PLO's new way of presenting themselves not evidence of a basic change of mind?

[Shamir] *They will never change their minds. If one of them changes his mind he would like to commit suicide* or he will be killed by his comrades. Or he can tell his friends that they should dissolve the PLO because it loses its raison d'etre. I cannot imagine that they would do this.

[Benedict] *Mr Prime Minister, what do you say* to the counterargument, that is, your argument that the PLO wants to destroy Israel? This is simply unthinkable from the military point of view.

[Shamir] Certainly.

[Benedict] Why do you not simply tolerate the PLO then, if, after all, it is not a *super-dimensional risk for Israel.*

[Shamir] Particularly because they cannot destroy us militarily, *they want to destroy us morally, psychologically, to take away our moral force to resist them.*

## Peres, Shevardnadze To Discuss Trade in New York

*TA0809102288 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 8 Sep 88 p 1*

[Report by Judy Maltz]

[Text] The establishment of joint chambers of commerce in Moscow and Tel Aviv, as a first step towards opening direct trade channels between the Soviet Union and Israel, will be discussed during Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres's meeting with his Soviet counterpart Eduard Shevardnadze in New York later this month.

An agreement in principle to set up these organizations was reached in Leningrad last month, during a visit by Dany Gillermarr, the president of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce. The Soviets, who were described by sources close to Gillerman as "very serious about the idea," also brought up the subject in recent meetings with the foreign minister's adviser, Nimrod Novik.

According to these sources, the Soviets are interested in initiating trade ties through such institutions as chambers of commerce, since these are not regarded as political bodies.

Although Israel trades openly with other Eastern Bloc countries, it has no direct commercial links with the Soviet Union. The sources said that the Soviets are interested in trading with third countries through Israel, as well as in purchasing Israeli-made pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and new technologies.

In their discussions with Gillerman, the Soviets also mentioned the possibility of selling Israel raw materials and possibly even diamonds. Israel is the largest diamond-processing centre in the world.

## USSR's Vinogradov Denies Relations 'Warming Up'

*TA0709114588 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 7 Sep 88 p 5*

[Report by 'Anat Saragosti]

[Text] Vladimir Vinogradov, minister of foreign affairs of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, which is the largest republic in the USSR, was in Geneva to attend a UN convention. In an interview with HA'OLAM HAZE, Vinogradov said that "relations between the Soviet Union and Israel are not warming up." He suggested that it is too early to talk about the establishment of relations between the two countries, and he noted that the exchange of consular delegations is a mere technical matter.

"In order to establish diplomatic relations," Vinogradov said, "two countries must see eye to eye, and at the moment there is nothing in common between the policy of the Soviet Union and that of Israel."

## Shi'ites Holding Captured Navigator Described

*TA0809102988 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] Ron Arad, the Israeli navigator captured by the Shi'ite Amal organization about 2 years ago, is held by a dissident faction headed by Mustafa al-Dirani in the Al-Biqa' area controlled by Syria. This was reported by an Amal source. Our Arab affairs correspondent Aharon Barne'a reports on the Al-Dirani faction:

[Begin recording] About 2 years ago, when Ron Arad was captured by Amal after his plane had been hit during an operation against terrorist bases in the area of Sidon, Mustafa al-Dirani was head of the Amal security establishment. His headquarters were located in Beirut's neighborhood of Bi'r al-'Abd. As head of security, he was also in charge of Amal's assault mechanism. It is conceivable that Al-Dirani was in charge of the Israeli captive navigator.

In the meantime, Al-Dirani was deposed from the organization's leadership. He left, taking several hundred Amal militiamen along with him. Al-Dirani conducted a struggle against Nabih Birri for the leadership of Amal and was subsequently accused by the latter with an attempt to allow Iranian elements to take over.

Al-Dirani, who was close to the radical Shi'ite Hizballah, which is inspired and fully supported by Iran, moved his headquarters to Al-Biqa' where he established a new organization called The Resistance of the Faithful. The new organization, which operates mainly in South Lebanon and which has initiated numerous activities against the security zone, is inspired by the Iranian Embassy in Lebanon and financed by Iran. The organization's Al-Biqa' headquarters are located in the vicinity of the Hizballah headquarters with which Al-Dirani maintains close ties.

The most important point is that this part of Al-Biqa' is under the absolute control of the Syrian Army. According to the Amal source's report, as well as the Lebanese AL-SHIRA' newspaper, which is close to both Iran and Syria, the Israeli pilot is held by Al-Dirani's organization, the Resistance of the Faithful.

It should be noted that when reports in Lebanon stated that Ron Arad is afflicted with a severe intestinal disease and is receiving medical treatment, Israel reiterated its warning that it holds the Amal organization solely responsible for the navigator's safety and well-being. [end recording]

## August Bombing in Haifa Unrelated to Uprising

*TA0709165188 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 7 Sep 88 p 1*

[Report by Western Galilee correspondent Yosi Leibowitz]

[Text] "The attack on the Nordau promenade in Haifa over 2 weeks ago in which 27 people were wounded was planned in minute detail by a hostile Palestinian organization, such as Ahmad Jibril's organization or another branch of the PLO. The attack is in no way linked to the disturbances motivated by nationalism that have taken place in Israel in recent months."

Commander Shlomo Haron, commander of the Northern District Police, said this to DAVAR's correspondent yesterday.

According to Horon, the attack was similar to ones carried out by Palestinian organizations in the country in previous years, and is in no way connected to the intifada [uprising].

The commander of the Northern Command confirmed last night for the first time that the investigation, which is being conducted by a special team from the Haifa District and members of other security forces, has reached a dead end. Commander Horon believes the four suspects, three from Janin and one from a nearby village, who have been in detention for 17 days, will be released soon.

"We have interrogated the suspects from every possible angle, but so far there has been no development in the investigation," Commander Horon said.

## Rabin Comments on Qalqilyah, Deportations

*TA0709124488 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated today that each time activities step up in a specific area in the territories, as was the case in Qalqilyah, the IDF will conduct a special operation. That is what the IDF has done in the past, and that is how it will proceed in the future. Minister Rabin reviewed the security situation in

Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza in an address to World Zionist Organization information activists who are going abroad. Our correspondent Rina Matzli'ah reports:

[Begin recording] [Matzli'ah] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin stated today that the objectives of the violence directed at the IDF in the territories are similar to those of the Arab countries and the hostile Arab organizations. The solution, Rabin said, could only be a political one, and it would be attained with the cooperation of Jordan and the Palestinians. Until such a solution is reached, the IDF must attain two objectives, Rabin said.

[Rabin] The first objective is to restore calm. Having said that, I do not mean that no more stones and firebombs will be thrown. The second objective is to uphold the services provided by the Civil Administration and the local authorities for the well-being of the Palestinian population.

[Matzli'ah] The notion of civil disobedience, the defense minister said, is slowly fading away.

[Rabin] The talk about civil disobedience forced us to take measures which increased the Palestinian individual's dependence on and contacts with the Civil Administration. Therefore, as far as the individual is concerned, any idea about a disengagement poses far more serious difficulties.

[Matzli'ah] Minister Rabin pointed out that the IDF has been successful in almost entirely eradicating violent demonstrations in the territories, to the chagrin of PLO extremists, who realize that such a development reduces media coverage of the uprising abroad. At present, the defense minister said, 80 percent of the incidents in the territories involve stones: 60 percent involve the actual throwing of stones, and 20 percent involve the erection of stone barriers.

The underlying motive for the activities in the territories is the wish to create an infrastructure which would allow the continuation of the uprising by means of the local popular committees. In addition, passive violence is waged through strikes, but we do not interfere with those, Rabin said.

Yitzhaq Rabin referred to deportations from the territories, saying he considers them a selective measure anchored by law and one that is not a transfer or a minitransfer. The future of the territories will be determined by the ability of both sides to endure, the defense minister said. Although the IDF has the ways and means to attain a significant drop in the level of violence, one must realize that there is no magic solution. Therefore, he expects Jewish settlers in the territories who chose this kind of life to show a little forbearance.

[Rabin] A little forbearance and tolerance is required of those who regard settlement in certain areas a supreme mission. Most of them have it in them, and those who whine all the time are in the fringes.

[Matzli'ah] Referring to the IDF's operation in Qalqilyah, which is still under way, the defense minister said similar operations would be conducted each time activities step up in a specific area. [end recording]

## More on Unrest, Related Incidents in Territories

### Casualty Figures Updated

*TA0709115188 Tel Aviv HA'OLAM HAZE in Hebrew 7 Sep 88 p 5*

[Report by 'Anat Saragosti]

[Text] On Monday 5 September, the 273d day of the uprising in the territories, the IDF spokesman reported 201 Palestinian casualties: 199 who were killed by IDF gunfire in the occupied territories and 2 who died in the Qezi'ot detention camp in the Negev, better known as Ansar-3. This figure does not include the number of those killed by settlers' gunfire and in other circumstances.

According to HA'OLAM HAZE's count, the number of Palestinians killed since the beginning of the uprising stands at 275.

In contrast, Palestinian sources report 357 Palestinian casualties, according to the following breakdown:
—232 killed by IDF and settlers' gunfire.
—62 killed as a result of gas inhalation.
—33 killed as a result of beatings and electrocution.
—30 killed in other circumstances.

### 200 Arrested in Qalqilyah

*TA0709172888 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Approximately 200 people have been detained in the IDF operation in Qalqilyah. Several squads of Molotov cocktail throwers were uncovered among them. One of the squads uncovered belongs to the Islamic Resistance Movement; its members attacked Israeli vehicles in the area. Our correspondent Moti Amir reports that the law and order operation in Qalqilyah is continuing and that the city is still under curfew.

### Differences Over Strike Call

*TA0809062288 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] A general strike is being called today in the territories, but for the first time another Palestinian call has been made for Arabs of the territories to behave as usual. This is the first clash between various Palestinian factions in the territories, between the pro-PLO Unified Leadership and the Islamic Resistance. Steve Rodan has more:

It's a big day for Palestinian activists. Today is another general strike call in Judaea and Samaria, and Gaza called by the Unified Leadership of the Palestinian Uprising. This is the pro-PLO body that has led much of the 9-month old uprising. But there is a different communique being circulated in the territories. This one by the Islamic Resistance. Their communique No. 29 calls in effect for stores to open today. Instead, they have called for a strike tomorrow.

It is the first open dispute between Palestinian activists during the uprising. The dispute centers around the rivalry between the two groups and their ideological differences. The Unified Leadership supports the PLO call for an international conference and its feelers to negotiate with Israel. The Islamic Resistance, believed to be led by Ahmad Yasin, has rejected any accommodation, however temporary, with Israel. Arab sources said the Islamic Resistance is influential in Gaza and in several areas in Judaea and Samaria, but the popular support rests largely with the Unified Leadership.

Two weeks ago, the Islamic Resistance called for a general strike in the territories. It was well observed in Gaza, but it was virtually ignored in Judaea and Samaria, although in some areas fundamentalists forced store owners to close for 2 hours. Pro-PLO activists are confident that today's strike will be fully observed even in the Gaza Strip.

Independent observers say that even there the Unified Leadership has attracted majority support. The question, however, will be tomorrow. If store owners remain closed tomorrow, if Arab transportation is halted, then the Islamic Resistance will have achieved a major victory. If not, the victory will be to the Unified Leadership. One Arab source said: The Islamic Resistance is not very strong, but it is very threatening.

## Likud Inaugurates Election Campaign

*TA0709094488 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 7 Sep 88 p 1*

[Report by political correspondent Mikhal Yudelman]

[Excerpt] The Likud inaugurated its election campaign yesterday with pomp and rowdiness at Jerusalem's Binyeney Ha'ooma, with thousands of activists cheering, whistling and shouting "Begin, Begin" at every opportunity.

The highlight of the ceremony was the Likud's election jingle, broadcast for the first time and repeated again and again, with the refrain "Only Likud Can."

The ceremony opened with a roll-call of the party's Knesset members, candidates and ministers, who one by one ascended the stage. When Binyamin Begin's name was called the audience erupted into ecstatic cries of "Begin, Begin," which were only drowned by the applause for Binyamin Netanyahu, when his turn came.

Campaign chairman Moshe Arens, who spoke first, viciously attacked Labour's campaign chief, 'Ezer Weizman. "Weizman was in the Likud, he was in Labour and in Yahad, and who knows where he'll be tomorrow. 'Ezer claims he's no more and no less than an F-16 plane. This aircraft has the aerodynamic quality of being unstable," Arens said to roars of "boo!" from the audience.

"We've seen him (Weizman) conducting war against Menahem Begin," Arens continued, confusing the audience who burst simultaneously into "boos" for Weizman and applause at the mention of Begin's name.

"Yesterday they danced," Arens said, referring to Labour leaders at their campaign kickoff ceremony. "We'll see who dances last."

Prime Minister Shamir gave an hour-long speech outlining the Likud's peace efforts and said that a Likud-led government would invite Egypt and Jordan to peace negotiations, as well as the Arab residents of Judea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip. [Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew on 7 September in a report by Menahem Rahat on pages one and two adds that in his speech "Shamir for the first time outlined the way in which the representatives of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el would be chosen: 'The neighbouring Arab countries would help the Arab population elect their temporary representatives to the negotiations.'"]

Shamir mentioned Begin's name several times in his speech, pausing so that the audience could indulge in rhythmic shouts of "Begin, Begin." Every time Labour was mentioned, cries of "boo" shook the auditorium.

Shamir said that a Labour government would mean withdrawal to the 1967 borders and handing over parts of Israel to terrorist organizations. He accused the political left of preferring narrow, party interests to national ones.

"Those among us who tell lies about others, saying that we do not want peace and blaming Jews for the absence of peace, are informers who deserve every condemnation," Shamir charged.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levi whipped the audience into a belligerent mood by declaring war on Labour and calling it "the national masochism camp."

Levi said there was no new concept behind Labour's slogan and accused Labour of adopting the Likud's policy of inviting Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinians to peace negotiations. [passage omitted]

## Poll Finds Peres Leading for Prime Minister Post

*TA0209112288 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 2 Sep 88 pp 1, 2*

[Text] The Modi'in Ezrahi Research Institute headed by Dr Rahel Yisre'eli conducted a public opinion poll in the last week of July 1988 which among other things examined the popularity of public personalities for the leading ministerial positions. Shim'on Peres led the poll for the position of prime minister with almost 34 percent support, and was followed by Yitzhaq Shamir with nearly 32 percent. Support for Shamir is stable while Peres' popularity has dropped since May. The third candidate was Ari'el Sharon (4.7 percent), followed by Yitzhaq Rabin (4 percent, an increase in support), and Binyamin Netanyahu (2 percent, an increase in popularity).

Those found suitable for the task of defense minister were Yitzhaq Rabin, in first place with almost 41 per cent, which is a drop in popularity for him; followed by Ari'el Sharon with 27 per cent, an increase; Moshe Arens (6 per cent, an increase); and Refa'el Eytan (4.3 per cent, an increase).

Those said to be most suitable to be finance minister were Moshe Nisim (43.6 percent, a drop in popularity), Yitzhaq Moda'i (15 percent), and Gad Ya'aqobi (6.7 percent). For the post of foreign minister, the most popular personality was Abba Eban (19.3 percent), followed by Shim'on Peres (14 percent), and Moshe Arens (11 percent).

**Table of choices for prime minister**

| | July 88 | June 88 | May 88 | April 88 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shim'on Peres | 33.8 | 35.4 | 38.2 | 36.2 |
| Yitzhaq Shamir | 31.8 | 31.8 | 30.2 | 29.5 |
| Yitzhaq Rabin | 4.0 | 3.4 | 4.1 | 4.6 |
| Ari'el Sharon | 4.7 | 2.9 | 4.0 | 4.1 |
| Me'ir Kahane | 1.2 | 1.4 | 1.1 | 2.1 |
| Moshe Arens | 1.4 | 2.5 | 1.8 | 1.9 |
| David Levi | 1.4 | 1.5 | 1.5 | 0.9 |
| Binyamin Netanyahu | 2.0 | 1.2 | | |
| Menahem Begin | 1.1 | 1.3 | 0.9 | 1.0 |
| other | 8.6 | 3.9 | 7.2 | 7.4 |
| no candidate | 10.0 | 14.7 | 11.0 | 12.3 |
| total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

**Table of choices for defense minister**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yitzhaq Rabin | 40.9 | 50.8 | 51.4 | 45.6 |
| Ari'el Sharon | 27.4 | 23.3 | 19.5 | 25.7 |
| Moshe Arens | 6.0 | 4.9 | 4.3 | 5.7 |
| Refa'el Eytan | 4.3 | 2.4 | 3.6 | 3.4 |
| 'Ezer Weizman | 2.7 | 2.1 | | |
| Shim'on Peres | 2.1 | 1.4 | | |
| other | 8.5 | 4.4 | 12.7 | 9.9 |
| no candidate | 7.1 | 10.6 | 8.5 | 9.7 |

**Table of choices for prime minister**

| | July 88 | June 88 | May 88 | April 88 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Shim'on Peres | 33.8 | 35.4 | 38.2 | 36.2 |
| total | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 | 100.0 |

## Peres Shown as 'Best Suited'

*TA0709103388 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Sep p 17*

[Report by Orli Azulay-Katz]

[Text] Shim'on Peres is the man most suitable as prime minister, 'Ezer Weizman as foreign minister, Yitzhaq Rabin as defense minister, and Moshe Nisim as finance minister.

These are the findings of a public opinion poll conducted by the Tatzpit Institute directed by Dr Aharon Fein.

Here are the results of the poll:

—Who do you think is best suited to be prime minister?
Shim'on Peres—42.6 percent, Yitzhaq Shamir—34.1 percent.

—Who do you think is best suited to be foreign minister?
'Ezer Weizman—51.6 percent, David Levi—17.5 percent.

—Who do you think is best suited to be defense minister?
Yitzhaq Rabin—53.8 percent, Ari'el Sharon—31.1 percent.

—Who do you think is best suited to be finance minister?
Moshe Nisim—47 percent, Gad Ya'aqobi—27 percent.

## Labor Party Poll Shows Alignment Ahead

*TA0509134888 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 5 Sep 88 p 14*

[Report by Yosi Werther]

[Text] According to a public opinion poll commissioned by the Labor Party, and recently conducted by Decima, the Alignment receives 44 Knesset seats while the Likud receives only 37.

The poll was presented over the weekend to the Labor Party's various political forums. Based on what the participants were told, it emerges that together with the leftwing parties and Memad, which gets 1 Knesset seat, and counting on the help of HADASH and Progressive List for Peace [PLP] to prevent the Likud from forming a government, the Alignment would be able to form a narrow-based government.

According to the poll, Kahane gets 3 Knesset seats, Refa'el Eytan—1, Tehiya—7, National Religious Party—4, Agudat Yisra'el—1, SHAS—2, the Arab parties—4, RAKAH goes up from 4 to 6 seats, PLP maintains its current size, Citizens Rights Movement—6, Center Movement-Shinuy—2, and MAPAM—2.

## Alignment Lead 'Growing'

*TA0609111988 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 6 Sep 88 p 1*

[Report by Hanan Crystal]

[Text] A public opinion poll conducted by the Tazpit Research Institute directed by Dr Aharon Fein states that the Alignment's edge over the Likud is growing. According to the findings of the poll which was conducted at the end of August and the beginning of September, the Alignment is leading with 46 Knesset seats over the Likud's 36. Some 1,200 people, who constitute a representative sample of the adult urban and rural Jewish population, were polled by telephone. The voting trends of Israel's Arabs were taken into account in the compilation of the sample.

—Alignment—46; MAPAM—2; Citizens Rights Movement—7, Center Movement-Shinuy—2.

—Likud—36; Tehiya—4; Tzomet—3; Moledet—1; Kahane—2.

—National Religious Party—4; SHAS—3; Agudat Yisra'el—2; Memad—1.

—HADASH and Progressive List for Peace—7.

## Public Fears War If Border Withdrawal Occurs

*TA0509123388 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 5 Sep 88 p 3*

[Report by party affairs correspondent 'Aliza Wallach]

[Text] A public opinion poll commissioned by the Likud and conducted by Dahaf Institute shows that 73 percent of the public is concerned that a war might break out if Israel withdraws to the 1967 borders. Conducted at the end of August, the poll was designed to gauge views about the threats feared by the public. The findings show that a withdrawal to the 1967 borders is perceived as the biggest threat by the public in general, and even more so by undecided voters.

This finding apparently prompted Likud leaders to criticize the conclusions disclosed last week of a poll conducted by the Labor Party, which showed that 57 percent of the public is ready for a territorial compromise and 71 percent favor the framework of an international conference.

## 'New Period' Seen in U.S.-Israeli Relations

*TA0709162888 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 7 Sep 88 p A 14*

[Commentary by Shmu'el Segev: "Waiting for the Elections"]

[Excerpts] Richard Murphy, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Middle East affairs, dropped a bombshell this week which did not create the expected response in Israel only because we are so involved in the election campaign. In an address to the international conference of the B'nei B'rith in Baltimore, Murphy declared that the intifada [uprising] will not disappear; the measures taken to repress it were found to be ineffective, he said, and the United States is opposed to the policy of collective punishment, deportations, and mass arrests that Israel has been implementing.

Murphy said that the United States still adheres to the Reagan plan and the Shultz initiative, and called on the Palestinians to drop their illusions and be more realistic, thus enabling them to join the peace process. Murphy's remarks sound like a direct continuation to the "veiled warning" first adopted by Reagan during Yitzhaq Shamir's visit to Washington in March, and has been repeated by U.S. spokesmen on various occasions. The main element of this U.S. approach is a warning to Israeli and Palestinian leaders that if they forfeit the opportunity for peace, do not give up their illusions and do not become more realistic, they will be responsible to their own people and will also not receive U.S. support blindly.

There is no need to be an avowed "pessimist" to understand that we are at the outset of a new period in our relations with the United States on the Palestinian issue. [passage omitted]

Whoever keeps in touch with the U.S. press, as well as with Palestinian and inter-Arab activity in the United States, must feel a significant change taking place in U.S. public opinion on the Palestinian issue. The status of the Jewish and pro-Israel lobby is still high, although the status of the Arab lobby is becoming steadily stronger; also, Palestinian lecturers, even if they are PLO sympathizers, are no longer rejected by U.S. research institutions.

The truth is that the United States, like Israel, realizes that the intifada did not achieve its political aims. The Palestinian leadership is divided, and those who support giving up terrorism and moving toward political negotiations are becoming increasingly vocal. King Husayn's decision to stop concerning himself with Judaea and Samaria, and the economic and other measures Israel has adopted since then, have increased the Palestinian people's plight and pushed the PLO into a corner. As a result of this hardship, the Palestinian leadership and the PLO have markedly different approaches on how to achieve a settlement. The fact that the debate inside the PLO is over the character of the political and territorial settlement is in itself positive, but this Palestinian organization is not yet ripe to be recognized as "a reliable partner" for negotiations with the United States, Israel, and Jordan. Nevertheless, one cannot discount the possibility that this could happen soon. It appears that all those involved either directly or indirectly in the Arab-Israeli conflict are waiting for the outcome of the elections in the United States and Israel before formulating their final positions.

Israeli leaders of all parties are of course aware of these processes taking place in the United States and among the Palestinian leadership, but for obvious reasons are not presenting Israeli voters with the complete picture. The Likud is deliberately blurring the erosion that has taken place of Israel's status in the United States, while the Alignment does not yet dare to say that if the PLO accepts Resolutions 242 and 338, and gives up terrorism, it might be an acceptable party to the peace process. The extremist positions by the right wing and the left wing also contribute to blurring the picture. But the people of Israel have the right to know the real facts, since only on that basis can the public cast its ballot on 1 November and choose a leadership that will lead it to peace and security.

## AL-NAHAR Praises U.S. Stance on Deportations

*TA0609190688 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 27 Aug 88 pp 1, 11*

[Editorial: "Deportation—A Failed Policy That Aggravates the Situation"]

[Text] The issue of penalizing Israel for its deportation policy has been a subject of discussion and protest by various forums, without any result. A new development, however, is the recent change occurring in the U.S. position toward this problem. This new position sheds a new light on the subject.

The harsh protest note lodged by the U.S. Administration with the Israeli Government two days ago is the strongest note in years from the United States to Israel. It constitutes a blow to Israel from its most powerful ally.

What is noteworthy is that the protest alludes to the effect of this policy on bilateral relations between the two countries. For the first time, the U.S. State Department is linking the effect of Israel's policy in the occupied territories with bilateral relations. Differences between Israel and the United States have always existed, but since the time of Begin and Carter the two countries have agreed that bilateral relations must not be affected by temporary disagreements.

The note goes on to say that the United States will vote against Israel in the United Nations, bearing in mind that U.S. policy in the past has been known to use the veto or to abstain from voting on any resolution against Israel. Despite the fact that the United States has always opposed the policy of deportation because it contravenes the Fourth Geneva Convention, this is the first time that the United States has taken a clear stand against this policy.

Perhaps this message is aimed at the increasing number of Israeli voices supporting the "transfer" policy. Support for this policy has lately increased to 49 percent of the Israeli population.

We appreciate this stance by the U.S. Administration and consider it an evolution in U.S. policy. We hope that it will be followed by practical steps demonstrating that U.S. policies stem from known American principles, and are not based on a policy of hypocrisy and deceit.

The expulsion of Palestinians from their land is not a new Israeli measure. Israel has practiced this policy since the occupation in 1967. What is new, however, is that since the outbreak of the uprising the momentum of deportation has increased. Deportation measures, in their present form, have become a political decision not connected to the judiciary.

The United States insists that the accused be brought to trial in order to defend themselves. According to the U.S. system and the American people's traditions, issuing convictions and decisions against any person without a just trial is unequivocally illegal. Under the Israeli system, a "secret file" available to neither the court nor the lawyer suffices with presenting general outlines in which it is alleged that someone is an agitator, or has disrupted order, or is affiliated with this or that faction. This is a process against which no lawyer can defend.

We have discussed and written a great deal on the subject of deportation and the humanitarian aspect of deporting any person from his homeland, kinfolk, and property, as well as the extreme torment and pain that this causes. We do not wish to repeat here what we have stated in the past, but Israel should know that its practices only aggravate the situation and the problem, and render mutual understanding and coexistence impossible.

## Growth of Islamic Movement Analyzed

*TA0409180388 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 4 Sep 88 p 7*

[Report by Qasim Zayyad]

[Text] The Islamic movement in Israel has undergone numerous changes since it was first founded. Established in the late 1970's, it joined several small religious groups from the Arab society's fringes and limited its activities to straightforward preaching.

The movement's followers, who lacked the experience in public activity and did not have proper leadership, were rude and heedless of their fellow Arabs. That is why they were considered an insignificant, marginal group.

With time, a new leadership emerged from within the ranks of the movement. It managed to put down roots and expand the movement's bases in most Arab villages and towns. The movement's followers freed themselves from past negative perceptions, and started to gain experience. They were accepted by Arab society.

At first the movement was influenced by the extreme currents of the Muslim Brotherhood. In 1979, when the movement was still very young, it formed an Usrat al-Jihad, "holy-war family," whose members were involved in anti-Israel terrorist activity. The members of Usrat al-Jihad were captured by the security forces and given various prison terms. Upon their release, the Islamic movement's leaders decided to abandon armed struggle and made a 180-degree turn. In addition to preaching Islam and attempting to broaden the movement's ranks, its leaders and activists were involved in charitable activity and the development of Arab villages. They organized charity societies in the villages, within the framework of law. These societies dealt mainly with the development and establishment of educational institutions. The Islamic charity societies began collecting funds—known as Al-Zakat—and distributing them to needy families and to Muslim students. For many years the movement has organized volunteer work camps in most of the villages. These camps are greatly appreciated by the Arab population.

As a result of these activities, the Islamic movement managed to expand and is now considered one of the strongest Arab movements. To wit, the Islamic art festival the movement held in Kafr Kanna during 'Id al-Adha. The festival's proceeds reached nearly 1 million shekels, proving that the Arabs trust the movement and donate generously. The proceeds were designated for the building of a hospital.

Whoever witnessed that festival knows that no other Arab political or social movement could maintain such wide-spread activity.

The movement publishes a bulletin of which several thousand copies are disseminated. In addition it occasionally publishes various pamphlets and leaflets. The movement's leaders see the media as an important factor and have never turned down a journalist, Israeli or foreign. It is very successful in this field and is presently the media's most oft-courted Islamic movement.

The movement's leaders issue balanced statements. Their propaganda adheres to pragmatic guidelines. Even the prolonged intifada [uprising] has not diverted them from their designated course. When the intifada and the violence in Arab villages started, the movement's leader, Shaykh 'Abdallah Darwish, expressed his reservations about such acts. In a discussion we held several months ago he said: "Sympathy—yes; violence—no," meaning that it is the Israeli Arab's right to express solidarity for the intifada, and provide their brothers in the occupied territories with moral and financial support, but never beyond that. In a demonstration of the National Committee of Arab Local Councils held in Al-Tayyibah some time ago in support of the intifada, the young Muslims demonstrators did not chant any unacceptable slogans.

The Islamic movement activists do not see their religious and political activities as conflicting with each other. They maintain that religious and secular life should not be separated.

For more than 2 years the movement's leaders have made known their intention to take advantage of their civil right to participate in the elections for the Knesset. Contrary to their past statements, they now say that it is a right they do not intend to give up. They do not plan to run on an independent list for the Knesset. They are, however, determined not to boycott the elections. I asked Shaykh 'Abdallah Darwish on one occasion whether he intends to support any particular party. His reply was: "We will support the peace camp."

Because of its strong standing in the Arab sector, different parties have been seeking the movement's support, hoping to enjoy the support of its thousands of followers.

The majority of the movement's leaders believe that they should not be identified with any single party, in that they differ with Darwish. The compromise the leaders have reached shows their intention to allow the movement's followers a free vote according to personal inclination so that the movement remains united.

Last week the movement announced its intention to participate in municipal elections in several Arab locations, including Nazareth, Umm al-Fahm, Al-Tayyibah, and Tira.

The Islamic movement today has become a dominant force in the Arab street. Its vote in the elections could have a significant impact on the results. If indeed it supports a particular party, it might change the balance of power within the Arab sector.

## Closure of Palestinian Institutions Criticized

*TA0609204788 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic*
*30 Aug 88 pp 1, 11*

[Editorial: "Who Benefits From the Closure of Palestinian Institutions?"]

[Text] Last Friday the authorities closed the Professional Unions Complex of the West Bank based in Jerusalem. This complex includes unions representing all professionals such as doctors, lawyers, engineers, pharmacists, dentists, and otherns. The authorities claimed that these unions are linked to the uprising, and that the offices of the complex are used by professionals and workers to organize demonstrations and national protests.

The Palestinian professionals denied these accusations by asserting that they were only carrying out their duties toward the members of each union by organizing the unions, preventing their infiltration, and defending the rights of the members.

The closure of the Professional Unions Complex in Bayt Hanina for one year, the earlier order for the closure of the Federation of Labor Unions for two years, and yesterday's decision to close the offices of the Union of Charitable Associations in Jerusalem, proves one thing: a failure to understand the reality in the occupied territories. The closure of buildings does not alter any reality. On the other hand these institutions existed for scores of years when there was no uprising. Do the authorities seriously believe that closing these institutions will put an end to the uprising? All Israeli measures during the past 9 months have not succeeded in eliminating the uprising.

The amazing thing is that Israel is not able to analyze or fathom the dangers that it is facing today. The Arab states, as well as the PLO, are displaying their willingness to establish peace. The Arab-Israeli conflict is no longer the crux of the dispute;, the challenge now facing Israel is to find a formula for coexistence with the Palestinian people, and for building bridges of trust and mutual understanding. Destiny has dictated that these two peoples—the Palestinian and Israeli—live side by side on this land. Israel, however, is behaving like an ostrich. It is burying its head in the sand and does not want to face this reality.

Israel's closure of Palestinian institutions in the occupied territories, and other Israeli practices, also close the door to chances of ending the conflict and opening a new page in relations between the two peoples.

The uprising, and the disengagement between the West Bank and Jordan, should be seen as having placed Israel and the PLO face to face on the right track for the first time. Each side must bear responsibility for the future. There exists a suitable opportunity for the easing of tensions in various parts of the world. We must seize this opportunity to find a formula that will carry us quickly on the road to peace.

Undoubtedly, the first step on this road is for Israel to cease its practices in the occupied territories, and stop harassing Palestinian institutions.

## King Husayn Affirms Position on Peace Conference

*JN0609114788 Amman Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn asserted that achieving peace in the region is only possible through the convening of an international peace conference attended by all parties to the conflict, including the PLO and the permanent Security Council members. In an interview with the Kuwaiti daily AL-ANBA', his majesty said that Jordan has spared no efforts to win international approval for the convening of the conference. His majesty said Jordan is not Palestine, and the Palestinian independent state should be established on the occupied lands. His majesty said that Jordan will not abandon supporting the Palestinian people until they gain their goals. His majesty pointed out that he and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak are in continuous contact over the Palestinian issue, and described Jordan's relations with Egypt as excellent.

## Kuwaiti Paper on Interview With King Husayn

*JN0709143088 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 6 Sep 88 pp 1, 26*

[By Sawsan Abu Husayn]

[Text] King Husayn asserted that peace in the region can be achieved only by convening an international conference under the auspices of the United Nations and attended by the Security Council permanent members and all parties to the conflict including the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He also asserted that Jordan is not Palestine and that the Palestinian state will be established on the occupied territory.

In a statement to AL-ANBA' during his visit to Alexandria, the Jordanian monarch said: Jordan will not abandon its committment to participate in the peace process, to which we have contributed in making it gain international unanimity in favor of convening an international conference to achieve a just and peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and the settlement of the Palestinian issue in all of its aspects. King Husayn added that he holds continuous contacts and consultations with President Husni Mubarak in this regard.

Regarding the timing of his decision to disengage legal and administrative relationships with the West Bank, and why he had not done so 6 years ago after the Fes summit, which unanimously agreed to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the king said: In my speech on the disengagement of relationships with the West Bank, I said there were political considerations connected to the extent of the benefit of the Palestinian struggle from the continuation of the legal relationship between the Kingdom's two banks. Recently, we became aware that there is a Palestinian and Arab trend, which believes in the need to fully highlight the Palestinian identity in every effort and activity connected with the Palestinian issue and its developments. Also, we became aware that there is a conviction that the continuation of the legal and administrative relationship with the West Bank—and the subsequent Jordanian special dealing with Palestinian brothers under occupation through Jordanian institutions in the occupied territory—is contrary to this trend and will pose an obstacle to the Palestinian struggle, which aims at mass international support for the cause.

Answering a question from AL-ANBA', the Jordanian monarch said: As we responded to the Arab leaders' appeal for us in the Rabat summit in 1974 to continue our dealing with the occupied West Bank through Jordanian institutions, we also responded to the wish of the PLO, sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and to the Arab trend to affirm a purely Palestinian identity in all of its aspects. We have carried out our duty and done what is required of us.

King Husayn affirmed that Jordan has not and will not abandon its support for the Palestinian people until they achieve their national objectives, and that Jordan has not and will not abandon its pan-Arab duty. He also asserted that Jordan is not Palestine, the Palestinian state will be established on the occupied territory after its liberation, God willing, and the Palestinian identity will materialize there, as has been affirmed by the victorious uprising of the Palestinian people under occupation.

Regarding the Arab situation, the Jordanian king expressed hope for the building of a firm ground, based on true cooperation, to achieve what will satisfy the Arabs' conscience so that the future will be as we hope it to be.

Regarding the Egyptian-Jordanian talks, King Husayn said: During my talks with my brother, President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, we exchanged all that may bring good to our march, which aims to benefit our two fraternal peoples and, naturally, all Arabs. We have great hopes of building the firm ground of true cooperation and establishing what will satisfy the conscience of the Arabs and make them more optimistic about the future. We are doing all we can to continue marching forward. Egyptian-Jordanian relations are very strong. They are not the ties of an axis, but the beginning of Arab unity, reconciliation, and solidarity. I hope the Arab ranks will be reunited and that Arabs will be able to defend their causes, work in the service of their goals, and make the world respect them.

## Amman Radio Notes King's Statement in Egypt

*JN0309064388 Amman Domestic Service in English 0430 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] His majesty the king said his talks with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak will benefit the two countries and the whole Arab nation.

His majesty told reporters during celebrations held at Victoria College in Alexandria yesterday that he and Mr Mubarak had great hopes to build a solid foundation and sincere cooperation to serve Arab aspirations. His majesty said they look to the future of the Arab world to emulate the example of cooperation elsewhere in the world, so that the Arab nation can regain its high status in the world. His majesty described relations between Jordan and Egypt as very solid, said he is pleased to visit Egypt, and expressed admiration of Egypt and its unique position in the Arab world.

His majesty the king and Her Majesty Queen Nur then presided over the celebrations of the alumni of Victoria College on its 85th anniversary.

### Prince Briefs U.S. Delegation on W. Bank Measures

*JN0309174488 Amman Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, explained to a visiting American delegation today the Jordanian position as regards to the severence of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank.

His royal highness said that the Palestinian uprising is a Palestinian revolt on Palestinian Arab soil. The regent asserted that Jordan seeks to achieve a lasting, comprehensive, and just peace without resorting to partial solutions. His royal highness said the Palestinian problem is the core of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

### Occupied Territory People Enjoy Ownership Rights

*JN0309101988 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Sep 88 pp 1, 23*

[By Khulud al-Ja'uni]

[Excerpt] Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani has stated that citizens who reside in the occupied territory and who have property and interests in Jordan will enjoy the usual Jordanian Government's facilities as in the past. There are no new instructions in this regard, he said.

In an exclusive statement to AL-DUSTUR, Al-Dajani said that whoever has property or real estate could visit Jordan whenever he likes. There is no question of harming his interests or real estate. He can dispose of his property freely and with no restrictions, just like any Jordanian citizen. [passage omitted]

### Al-Masri Leaves for Nocosia Nonaligned Meeting

*JN0509184888 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Amman—Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has left Amman to lead Jordan's delegation to the nonaligned countries' foreign ministers conference which will open in Nicosia next Wednesday.

Al-Masri will deliver a speech at the conference dealing with the Nonaligned Movement's new policy toward international and regional issues. It will also review the Middle East issue, the Palestinian uprising, the Iraq-Iran war, and the revival of North-South dialogue.

The Jordanian delegation comprises Genral Nabih al-Nimr, Foreign Ministry secretary general, Ambassador Hisham al-Shawwa, Ambassador Khalil 'Uthman, and a number of Foreign Ministry officials. [passage omitted]

### Arab League's Secretary General Makes 2-Day Visit

*JN0709115188 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 0930 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Amman, 7 Sep (PETRA)—Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Amman last night on a 2-day visit to Jordan. He was received at Amman airport by Marwan Dudin, minister of labor; and Dr Nasir al-Batayinah, acting Foreign Ministry secretary general.

### Concludes Visit, Departs

*JN0709143388 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Amman—Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi left Amman for Tunisia at noon today after a 2-day visit to Jordan. He was seen off at Amman Airport by Marwan Dudin, labor minister; Khalid 'Ubaydat, head of the Political Desk at the Foreign Ministry; and a number of officials.

Klibi arrived in Amman yesterday en route to Tunisia after attending a part of the 23d session of the Arab information ministers' conference, which was concluded in Baghdad today.

### Al-Rifa'i Returns From London Visit

*JN0609182388 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i returned to Amman from London today after accompanying His Majesty King Husayn on his visits to Egypt and the United Kingdom. Prime Minister Al-Rifa'i attended the talks His Majesty King Husayn had held with his brother Egyptian President Husni Mubarak and British Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher. Prime Minister Al-Rifa'i was welcomed at the airport by several ministers and ranking prime ministry officials.

## Al-Jumayyil on Agreement With Al-Huss

*NC0709134988 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil thinks there is no disagreement between him and acting Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss about Lebanon's unity, democracy, and Arabism, nor is there any disagreement about the need for reforms in the system. However, he said, the absence of meetings between them was the obstacle in the way of any continued implementation.

President al-Jumayyil regards the talk about the government as an attempt to sabotage the presidential elections, and he rules out military escalation, affirming that Communique 1 [on military takeover] is out of the question in Lebanon. He also stresses that relations with Syria have not been and cannot be broken off.

President al-Jumayyil's remarks were reported by Milhim Karam, president of the editors syndicate, following his visit to B'abda Palace today.

## Damascus Cites Parties' Support for Al-Huss

*JN0409074488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT Sep 88*

[Text] Beirut—The committee comprising Lebanese nationalist and progressive parties held a meeting yesterday under Comrade 'Asim Qansuh, regional secretary of the Ba'th Party Organization. The meeting was attended by former Minister Marwan Hamadah, Akram al-Sayidi for the PSP, Muhammad Baydun and Hashim Jum'a for the Amal Movement, Nadim 'Abd al-Samad and Ilyas 'Atallah for the Lebanese Communist Party; and Suhayl al-Kassar and 'Abd al-Amir 'Abbas, members of the regional command of the Ba'th Party Organization in Lebanon.

In a statement issued at the end of its meeting, the committee affirmed its complete support for the nationalist stand announced by Dr Salim al-Huss on the retraction of his government's resignation in view of the fact that it is a government for unified Lebanon. The committee also denounced the statement issued by the Presidential Palace in reply to Prime Minister Al-Huss' announcement. The committee said that this statement is a new provocation that will undermine the remaining foundations of the regime following the obstruction of the session for the election of a new president of the republic.

In its statement, the committee warned the ruling regime against the consequences of pursuing the conspiracy and forming a new government.

## Paqraduni Expects New President Before 23 Sep

*NC0709192788 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Attorney Karim Paqraduni, deputy commander of the Lebanese Forces, expects Lebanon to have a new president before 23 September. He said there is a sweeping international wish to hold the presidential elections by the constitutional deadline. There is also a great Lebanese desire by the president of the republic, the Lebanese front, the Lebanese Forces, the Higher Islamic Shi'ite Council, the Islamic grouping, and all the parliamentary blocs to carry out the elections.

Pagraduni added that conducting the elections has become an international and Lebanese necessity, whereas failure to hold them is suicidal for Lebanon and Syria. Pagraduni said: I wager on the rational current in Syria, which will in the end prevent Lebanon and Syria from entering into an uncalculated adventure. For this reason, I am still convinced that the elections will be held before 23 September.

## Ja'ja' on Presidential Elections, Syria

*JN0509165888 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 4 Sep 88 pp 1, 19*

[Interview with Lebanese Forces Commander Samir Ja'ja' "in his office at the Lebanese Forces headquarters" by Nabih Barji; date not given]

[Text] [Barji] What if Samir Ja'ja' resigns or is dismissed?

[Ja'ja'] It is out of question to dismiss me.

[Barji] Do you believe that some detente would return to the Lebanese arena if you resigned?

[Ja'ja'] Detente may return, but in the sense that the Lebanese cause would end and Syria would have full control. In my opinion, removing Samir Ja'ja' from the arena will not take place. Some may mistakenly think some detente may occur. Bashir al-Jumayyil was removed from the arena, but detente did not occur. Nothing will happen if Samir Ja'ja' or his group dies. This is because there are constants in Lebanon which no one can circumvent. By saying that if Samir Ja'ja' dies the issue will be resolved, we are in fact aggravating [as published] and discounting the Lebanese cause. The issue is not one involving people, although people are very important in history and in the cause of a community. People struggle for the community's freedom, dignity, sovereignty, independence, and principles. Just as Bashir al-Jumayyil died and was replaced by others, Samir Ja'ja' may die and be replaced by someone else.

[Barji] I believe there are differences over the strategic need. This need makes the Syrians insist on integration with Lebanon. Such integration exists in more than a world region experiencing a similar situation.

[Ja'ja'] The situation in Lebanon will not be any different, and it is not a fault at all to realize integration. However, I wish that everyone would continue to enjoy as much objectivity as possible in his position and views because this is the only way to attain understanding. Does the Syrian strategic battle with Israel depend on the Syrian Army's presence in Lebanon? I believe that strategic parity is a comprehensive balance of power. Do you know that the Israelis wish most that the Syrian Army would remain in Lebanon, without approaching southern Lebanon, of course? This is because Israel prefers that the Syrian military force be deployed from Al-Qamishli to the Golan and also to Sidon, Beirut, Tripoli, and 'Akkar. I wonder now: What has been the outcome of the Syrian entry into Lebanon?

As you see, there is exhaustion in the military, political, and economic fields as well as paralysis in the Syrian Army's military activities.

[Barji] The Lebanese forces cooperate with any party whatsoever which has differences with Syria. Do you believe that by doing so you are playing a game bigger than your size warrants and that you have gone beyond all red lines?

[Ja'ja'] They have not made any room for reconciliation.

[Barji] Was it not possible to "economize" in your behavior?

[Ja'ja'] We tried everything, and we still try. If we could obtain the freedom and sovereignty of our country through consultations and negotiations, we would not have hesitated to do so. We prefer this thing to placing ourselves in constant danger. However, the Syrians have not made any room for reconciliation. This also applies to other parties.

[Barji] But you are moving and working on the ground?

[Ja'ja'] This is because we can move and work freely before Lebanon vanishes. Do you consider it logical to formulate the tripartite agreement? Do you know that Walid Junblatt did not want this agreement? Moreover, Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and the Lebanese Sunnis did not approve it, but all of these parties signed the tripartite agreement. Concerning the candidacy of [former] President Sulayman Franjiyah, what is the percentage of Muslims who approve his candidacy? If it is 5 percent, then I will approve Franjiyah's candidacy. Nevertheless, there is insistence on his candidacy. We told them to choose a candidate other than Sulayman Franjiyah but they refused to do so.

[Barji] Why do you reject Sulayman Franjiyah?

[Ja'ja'] Both Christians and Muslims reject Franjiyah, so why is the policy of oppression adopted against us? After all, I reiterate remarks by Antoine Sa'adah, founder of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party, although we have ideological differences with him. He said: "We will die standing up and will not kneel down."

[Barji] Are there contacts between you and Damascus now?

[Ja'ja'] Some mediators tried to make some.

[Barji] Have you done so yourselves?

[Ja'ja'] Yes, through some common friends.

[Barji] If you are invited this evening to visit Damascus, will you agree?

[Ja'ja'] No; on what basis?

[Barji] In order to discuss relations?

[Ja'ja'] In the current atmosphere, I will not agree.

[Barji] Is there any coordination between you and Arab capitals?

[Ja'ja'] Yes, we maintain good Arab relations, and there is continuous coordination with several Arab capitals on Lebanon and the region.

[Barji] Do these capitals maintain good relations with Damascus?

[Ja'ja'] Some of them maintain acceptable relations with Damascus.

[Barji] Did any of these capitals try to play some role between you and Syria?

[Ja'ja'] Some moderate Arab countries are trying to mediate, but they faced the same obstacles we have been facing for 13 years now.

[Barji] Why do you insist that the presidential elections should be held before 23 September?

[Ja'ja'] We stress the need to continue efforts to hold the elections.

[Barji] Karim Paqraduni said they would be held before 23 September.

[Ja'ja'] We hope so. The elections should be held either before or after [as published] 23 September. We will exert every effort to hold the elections as soon as possible.

[Barji] Can you say that the elections will take place before 23 September?

[Ja'ja'] No. I cannot say that. We know that the situation is not as bad as some people portray or hint. There will be a solution in the final analysis. We should not do injustice to people.

[Barji] How do you asses the transitional government?

[Ja'ja'] Why should we discuss this subject? We still have time, and we can take many steps.

[Barji] What kind of steps?

[Ja'ja'] Concentration, contacts, and pressure to hold the elections as soon as possible.

[Barji] What will happen if the efforts do not produce any positive results before 23 September?

[Ja'ja'] I think these efforts will produce positive results. If not, everything will be discussed at the proper time, and there is nothing to be feared.

[Barji] Do you agree on maintaining the current government?

[Ja'ja'] No, never, because it is a paralyzed government without balance and with many contradictions.

[Barji] Why are you cautious about the transitional government?

[Ja'ja'] I oppose the idea of the transitional government. Matters should move in the right direction, and the presidential elections should be held.

[Barji] You said that elections might not take place, and you object to the Al-Huss government and the transitional government. What is the fourth option?

[Ja'ja'] If there is insistence that the elections not be held, we will be compelled to take action and to search for a way to form a new government or for other ways out. I do not understand why Franjiyah does not withdraw his candidacy, especially since the Lebanese have showed unanimous objections. For the first time, the Lebanese expressed unanimity against Franjiyah. The only merit of his candidacy is the unification of the Lebanese.

[Barji] What will you do if President Al-Jumayyil continues to remain in power?

[Ja'ja'] This is out of the question because it is illegal, unconstitutional, and impractical.

[Barji] Do you believe that the political crisis will lead to military action?

[Ja'ja'] Nothing necessitates this because no one will benefit from the military option. Basically, such an option is a double-edged sword. I advise the other parties not to resort to it.

[Barji] Why do you advise the other parties not to resort to the military option?

[Ja'ja'] Because any military option will be confronted by military options.

[Barji] By internal options?

[Ja'ja'] When minds stop to work and the rifle speaks, you know what will happen. Everything is then possible.

[Barji] Did you meet with Antoine Lahd during his recent visit to East Beirut?

[Ja'ja'] Yes.

[Barji] What did you discuss?

[Ja'ja'] We discussed the conditions of the Lebanese in the border strip as well as the presidential campaign.

[Barji] Did you discuss forms of coordination between you and him?

[Ja'ja'] We discussed the present situation. We cannot announce our agreements or disagreements. We discussed the overall situation.

[Barji] Was Lahd on a Lebanese mission?

[Ja'ja'] No, he was not. Lahd often comes to the eastern areas to see his family and relatives.

[Barji] You've said Sulayman Franjjiyah has united the Lebanese against him. What about Raymond Iddih? Don't you think he can rally the Lebanese behind him?

[Ja'ja'] Some Lebanese have no freedom of expression. Iddih is popular with quite a few parliamentary deputies and political forces. However, they will not cast their ballots for him unless he has Syria's support, and to the best of my knowledge, the Syrians don't like him.

[Barji] Do you?

[Ja'ja'] The personal relationship aside, I cannot but respect and admire him. Unfortunately, we haven't been introduced, but I hope that, sooner or later, I'll make his acquaintance.

[Barji] Have you ever been in touch?

[Ja'ja'] No.

[Barji] Will you let the deputies vote for Iddih?

[Ja'ja'] It is not for me to do that. It's up to the deputies. In any case, whichever candidate is agreed upon by the eastern districts' deputies, we will give him our blessing. You can quote me on that.

[Baraj] The Maronite deputies have mandated Patriarch Nasrallah Sfayr.

[Ja'ja'] That's correct, and we said we'll go along with that.

[Barji] Has the Bkirki meeting taken up the subject of a presidential candidate?

[Ja'ja'] No. No names were brought up.

[Barji] Is it fair to say that the eastern districts' figures have failed to agree on a single candidate?

[Ja'ja'] No, that's not the point. The continued candidacy of Franjiyah has made naming a candidate of the eastern districts fruitless.

[Barji] What is the Soviet position?

[Ja'ja'] To my mind, the Soviet Union does not favor Franjiyah's candidacy.

[Barji] Are you in touch with Moscow?

[Ja'ja'] We have some contacts with the USSR Embassy in Beirut, but they don't count for much. The relationship with the Soviet ambassador is personal. However, personal relationships are one thing, and official ties are quite another.

[Barji] We have learned that you have received scholarships to Soviet universities.

[Ja'ja'] That's correct.

[Barji] What if the patriarch proposed the Army commander as a presidential candidate? Would you go along with that?

[Ja'ja'] Unconditionally; he will have done so after careful scrutiny and consultations.

[Barji] Can proposing the Army commander be a subject for consultation? And have you given the patriarch authorization?

[Ja'ja'] The Bkirki secret meeting unanimously decided that the deputies will support the patriarch in the presidential race. It would be wrong, however, to think that the we and the patriarch hold different positions.

[Barji] But there are differences between you and other figures in the eastern districts.

[Ja'ja'] They are differences of opinion.

[Barji] How will Samir Ja'ja' and Amin al-Jumayyil get along after 23 September?

[Ja'ja'] The way we did when Al-Jumayyil was president.

[Barji] But after 23 September Al-Jumayyil will be the chief of a sect. He will cease to be president.

[Ja'ja'] He wielded immense power and nothing happned.

[Barji] Prior to 23 September, Al-Jumayyil could not take everything. Now you'll have to take from each other.

[Ja'ja'] Al-Jumayyil tried to get anything he could, but I regained it. In any case, we will let the political game run its course.

[Barji] Dr Ja'ja': Are you expecting a visit that should set your mind at ease concerning the eastern districts?

[Ja'ja'] In the military sense?

[Barji] Yes.

[Ja'ja'] If he would, he's welcome.

[Barji] Have you any information on that?

[Ja'ja'] For the moment, we have complex information. This means that we have no information to indicate imminent military operations.

[Barji] Can it be said that you have ended radio confrontations with the Army commander?

[Ja'ja'] Yes.

[Barji] Under an agreement?

[Ja'ja'] New developments and circumstances have shown our positions to be in harmony. I wouldn't advise anyone to wager on differences in the camp of the eastern districts.

[Barji] You have been labeled the lethal octopus who has presided over a series of Christian reverses and massacres. Where are you leading them now?

[Ja'ja'] I never led the Christians from 1976 to 1986. I took over the leadership from 1986.

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### Junblatt Rejects Ja'ja' Demand on Government

*NC0409135588 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1300 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] PSP leader Walid Junblatt has stressed that the present government is legal and will remain. At a news conference in Al-Mukhtarah today, Junblatt said: We understand today more than ever before why Rashid Karami was assassinated and who was behind this crime. Amin al-Jumayyil was seeking at the time to form a new status quo government after having killed Karami. This government is legal, and we will remain in it.

Asked about his expectations if a new president were not elected by 23 September, Junblatt said: Lebanon would be partitioned into a nationalist, democratic Arab segment and another linked with Israel and the West. There have been similar cases, such as Afghanistan, he noted.

Asked about Ja'ja's demand for Franjiyah's withdrawal from the election campaign and a search for any other candidate for the presidency, Junblatt said: We reject these proposals. Ja'ja's stand reminds us of Bashir al-Jumayyil's stand on the eve of the Israeli invasion of 1982. Bashir al-Jumayyil then stood against the Lebanese and Arab consensus of the Arab follow-up committee that met in Bayt al-Din in a last bid to save Lebanon from invasion.

Regarding Bkirki's latest statement, Junblatt said: We had hoped Patriarch Sfayr would adopt a positive stand. It seems that after his visit to the United States, Sfayr cares only for Christians' rights and the Christian issue in the Arab east in general. He added: Anyway, we have information that those who prepared his visit were a group interested only in the Christian issue in the east, caring not about the issue of the Muslims in the east and Lebanon. Junblatt termed this a U.S.-Christian agreement. [passage omitted]

### Birri on Possible 'Fait Accompli' Government

*NC0509060788 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Minister Nabih Birri has been quoted as saying that he has offered a great deal for the sake of the constitutional deadline, and that what was acceptable before 23 September will not be acceptable after this date. We will demand more than reforms, he said, adding: We will resist any attempt that President al-Jumayyil will make to form a fait accompli government headed by a Maronite; that is, a government headed by a non-Sunni. This, he said, will prompt us to demand a non-Maronite president.

A long meeting was held last night attended by Minister Birri Marwan Hamadah, and Muhsin Dallul during which they discussed steps the leftist groups intend to take.

### Views Provisional Government

*NC0509123588 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Amal Movement leader Nabih Birri has declared that no transitional government can be formed to replace the Al-Huss government. The formation of a transitional government, he said, means appointing a non-Muslim to head it.

Birri added: If some justify this by custom, we for our part do not recognize such customs. If the other side adheres to this custom, we ask: Why doesn't custom also apply to the Presidency, and the presidential post given to a Muslim?

Birri asked: Is it not also possible to appoint a Muslim to head a government? He called on the political and spiritual leaders, particularly Patriarch Sfayr, to define their position. Patriarch Sfayr made a statement in the United States in which he objected to the Maronites becoming second-class citizens. Does he accept that others should become second-class citizens? Birri asked.

Birri expressed his fear that Bkirki [the seat of the Maronite Patriarchate] is presently thinking of continuing the role it played in Washington. He called on Bkirki to take an independent decisionmaking stand and to offer a balanced political view and define its position on the establishment of a transitional government.

Birri revealed that efforts are under way to discuss the idea of establishing a constituent assembly. There are two proposals, he said. The first calls for the establishment of an expanded assembly consisting of all the influential leaders, and the second calls for increasing the number of deputies to 198. A constituent assembly would emerge from this Chamber of Deputies to establish the new principles for a second republic.

He said that elections should precede reforms, adding: What was acceptable before 23 September could be unacceptable to us after this date.

### Comments on Nationalist Forces

*NC0509134388 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Amal Movement leader Minister Nabih Birri has stated that a meeting of all nationalist forces and parties will be held very soon to discuss the form of the Constituent Assembly to confront the coming phase, regarding as Lebanon's sin the fact that it has been committed to sectarianism and not gratified with democracy.

### Israeli Planes Over Sidon; Boats Approach Tyre

*NC0809105988 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1051 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] Zionist warplanes flew over Sidon and its camps at 1030 today, carrying out mock raids. Antiaircraft fire was directed at the aircraft and sirens were sounded in the city as a warning against possible acts of aggression.

Zionist gunboats approached the Tyre shores at 0515 today and opened fire at the Al-Rashidiyah and Al-Shati' camps. Artillery of the Israeli occupation forces and agents last night bombarded the outskirts of Kafr Rumman from positions in Tallat Tuhrah, causing damage to property and farms.

### Voice of Hope on Whereabouts of Israeli Pilot

*NC0809053688 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0500 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] An Amal Movement source said yesterday that Ron Arad, the Israeli pilot whose aircraft was shot down 2 years ago, is being held by an Amal dissident group led by Mustafa al-Dirani in a Syrian Army-controlled area in the Al-Biqa' Valley.

### Syrians Besiege Buildings in West Beirut

*NC0809055888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] The Syrian occupation army has carried out military preparations in West Beirut over the past 2 days. Syrian troops besieged key official institutions and centers in West Beirut, including Government House, the Central Bank, the Information Ministry building, and the former official radio station. Syrian soldiers have deployed around these institutions and on the rooftops of nearby buildings.

This Syrian step coincided with political preparations undertaken at the meeting held by the pro-Syrian forces and parties in Damascus yesterday. During the meeting, which was attended by ministers Nabih Birri and Walid Junblatt, the conferees discussed the so-called political document drawn up by the parties' committee. Other meetings are expected to be held to approve this document, including an expanded meeting which Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam may hold within the next few days.

### Group Claims Attack on Syrian Roadblock

*NC0709201888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1945 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] The Khalil 'Akkawi unit of the 9 February Organization this evening announced its responsibility for detonating an explosive charge near a Syrian occupation forces' center and roadblock in the Al-Barbir district of West Beirut. An organization spokesman said in a telephone call to Radio Free Lebanon that the charge weighed 15 kg and that the explosion left many casualties among the Syrians. He said that the organization will continue to attack the Syrian forces with explosive charges, despite the security cordon imposed by these forces in the Al-Barbir area.

### Southern Shelling Wounds Syrian Party Official

*NC0709171788 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] In the resisting South, a landmine blew up under a Lahd militia vehicle in the Al-Dallafah area, destroying it and wounding those in it.

Resistance fighters have fired Katyusha rockets at the agents' position on 'Ayn Qinya hill. The enemy forces shelled Mimis, Al-Khalwat, Al-Kufayr, 'Ayn Tanta, and the Hasbayya-Rashayya al-Wadi public road. An official of the Syrian Social Nationalist Party Higher Council and his wife were wounded as a result of the shelling.

Persons arriving from the area have reported that an Israeli force of three armored vehicles and a civilian car carrying several intelligence officers took up positions at the crossing gate in Zummarayya alongside the agents' militia. People passing through have been subjected to careful searches, and some to long interrogations as well as beatings.

### Syrian Brigade Said in Dahr al-Baydar

*NC0709163988 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] The AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM News Agency has quoted a senior security source as saying that a Syrian brigade equipped with tanks and vehicles arrived at the Dahr al-Baydar area at noon today, coming from the Syrian territories via Al-Masna'.

### Assassination Try Injures Palestinian Official

*NC0709164888 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Halim Kayid, official in charge of the Palestinian Force 17 in the south, was injured in an assassination attempt in Sidon at noon today. A general state of alert throughout all the Palestinian camps in Sidon was declared as a result.

### PFLP-GC, Fatah Branch Set Up Joint Command

*NC0609123888 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] According to Palestinian sources in Sidon, the PFLP-GC and the Abu Musa [Sa'id Musa Muragha] branch of Fatah have recently established a joint command in the south under the leadership of Abu al-Fida' 'Amran. The sources accuse the above-mentioned command of working to arouse disputes and cause incidents in the Sidon camps which will lead to a Syrian intervention supported by the PNSF. The sources also accuse the said command of creating problems with the Amal Movement in order to revive Palestinian-Shi'ite conflict in the south.

An official of the pro-'Arafat Fatah has pointed out that there is irrefutable evidence which indicates that Abu Musa's troops are undertaking activities to cause security disruptions. He added that elements of the Syrian intelligence, supported by Syrian troops in Iqlim al-Kharrub, are secretly transporting groups of Abu Musa followers to 'Ayn al-Hulwah and Al-Miyah wa Miyah camps. Approximately 300 Abu Musa men have recently entered camps in the south under false Lebanese names and with forged documents. Certain elements of the Nasirite Popular Organization are accused of involvement in selling arms and ammunition to these groups, adds the source. 'Ala' Da'ud Yunus, the commander of

'Arafat's troops in the south, has asked the men of Abu Musa and Ahmad Jibril to withdraw from the Sidon camps before it is too late. Yunus has asserted that his fighters will put an end to the repeated provocations practiced by these groups.

The Abu Musa group in turn has accused Fatah of being behind operations carried out against Abu Musa trops and the Syrian Army in West Beirut, Al-Biqa', and Iqlim al-Kharrub through an operations room in 'Ayn al-Hulwah. The group has said that Hizballah agents in the Al-Biqa' valley are cooperating with the Fatah operations room in carrying out these operations within their jurisdiction. The Abu Musa group has also accused 'Arafat's men of getting ready to launch an all-out attack against Abu Musa's troops and the PNSF.

A PNSF official has said that 'Arafat's men have recently transported large quantities of arms and ammunition to Sidon under the supervision of the pro-'Arafat military official in Sidon. The weapons include Soviet-made grad rockets. Officials of the Nasirite Popular Organization and the PNSF are coordinating their activities to curb 'Arafat's expansion in the region.

## Amal Reports Operation on Dayr Mimas Road

*NC0509193788 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] An Amal Movement group yesterday detonated an explosive device on the Dayr Mimas road as a motorized patrol of occupation forces and agents was passing, damaging a half-track vehicle and killing or wounding those inside. The movement said that this operation marked the 2d anniversary of the martyrodom of three of its strugglers and was carried out in the place where they fell.

## Resistance Unit Hits Southern Assembly Point

*NC0409111188 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] In retaliation for the bestial shelling of the peaceful villages in the south by the Zionist occupation forces and their agents, the heavy-caliber rockets unit of the Martyrs Mahir Jabir and Husayn Sallum forces of the Lebanese resistance groups-Amal has pounded a Zionist enemy forces' assembly point near the Menora settlement with heavy rockets. The rockets hit their targets accurately, and smoke billowed from the area. A large number of enemy men were killed or wounded.

The Amal Movement has warned that it will not exercise mercy if the southern villages are subjected to any shelling by the occupation forces and their agents.

## Briefs

### Austrian Ambassador Ends Term

Ambassador Dr 'Asim Jabir, director of protocol at the Foreign Ministry, today received in his office at Government House Mr Georg Znidaric, the Austrian ambassador to Lebanon, who came to bid him farewell on the occasion of his transfer from Lebanon to another post. [Text] [*NC0609111888 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 6 Sep 88*]

## YAR Prime Minister Pays 'Friendly' Visit

### Meets With Prime Minister

*JN0309193488 Damascus Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi received YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and the accompanying delegation at 1830 today. The meeting was attended by Yasin Rajjuh, minister of state for cabinet affairs and head of the escort mission; Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; and Muhammad Ghassan al-Halabi, education minister.

Following an exchange of friendly talk between 'Abd al-Ghani and Al-Zu'bi, an official round of talks was held at the Prime Ministry under 'Abd al-Ghani and al-Zu'bi attended by members of both delegations. The prime minister welcomed YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and the accompanying delegation. He asserted that the ties between the two fraternal countries and peoples are very deep. He also stated the historical ties between the two countries and their common interests, which the leaderships of both countries are endeavoring to strengthen and develop in the interest of national and pan-Arab goals and for the benefit of the Arab nation.

Al-Zu'bi praised the great achievements accomplished by the YAR under President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. Al-Zu'bi asserted Syria's endeavor, under President Hafiz al-Asad, to build effective Arab solidarity to face the hostile plots against our Arab nation. The prime minister presented the government's policy and its economic and development approaches. He also presented the available local resources to bolster and develop Syria's economic and social environment.

YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani then expressed pleasure to visit fraternal Syria and his appreciation for the cordial welcome accorded to him and the accompanying delegation. He praised the pan-Arab role of Syria, which is standing steadfast against hostile imperialist and Zionist plots. He asserted that Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, is standing in the forward trench in defense of the Arab nation and its fateful causes. He also said: Our visit to fraternal Syria is only a step on the path to bolstering Arab solidarity for the service of the Arab nation and achieving its aspirations.

During this session, all aspects of relations between the two fraternal countries were discussed. They also discussed the horizons of joint cooperation in all fields in order to bolster the march of development in both fraternal countries. [passage omitted]

### Meets With Al-Asad

*JN0409143488 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] President Hafiz al-Asad received YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani at 1230 today. Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi attended the meeting. Also attending on the YAR side were Ahmad Muhammad al-Anisi, education minister and head of the general commission for scientific institutes; 'Alawi Salih al-Salami, finance minister and acting minister of economy, supply, and trade; and 'Abd al-Hadi Husayn al-Hamadani, YAR ambassador in Damascus. Talks dealt with relations between the two fraternal countries and ways to promote and enhance them as well as developments in the Arab region.

This morning, YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani visited the liberated town of Al-Qunaytirah, accompanied by Yasin Rajjuh, minister of state for cabinet affairs. [passage omitted]

'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani made a statement to a SANA correspondent. He lauded the steadfastness of this heroic town and its confrontation against unjust Zionist aggression. He also hailed the great efforts the Syrian Arab people are exerting to defend the Arab nation's dignity. He asserted that Syria is standing on the forward line to defend the Arab nation's issues and the great central cause against the tyrant Zionist enemy. [passage omitted]

### Concludes Talks, Signs Agreements

*JN0609151388 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi this morning received YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani. Attending the meeting was Minister of State for Planning Affairs Sabah Baqjaji. Al-Zu'bi and 'Abd al-Ghani exchanged cordial words. After that, the final session of talks between the YAR delegation headed by 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and the Syrian delegation headed by Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi in the presence of the members of both delegations was held in the conference hall of the Prime Ministry.

Al-Zu'bi delivered a speech discussing the important, fruitful results achieved during these talks benefiting both countries and strengthening the steadfastness of the Arab nation in the face of fateful challenges. Al-Zu'bi expressed Syria's great appreciation of the YAR's achievements under the leadership of President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih.

'Abd al-Ghani also delivered a speech expressing great appreciation and gratitude for the good reception, welcome, and honor that he and his delegation received. He affirmed his joy over President al-Asad's reception and the discussions between them on all issues and fraternal relations between the two fraternal countries. 'Abd al-Ghani praised the achievements of Syria under President Hafiz al-Asad, indicating that Syria is shouldering the brunt of the burden of defending the Arab nation's issues and is standing in the front line of those confronting and deterring the imperialistic Zionsit aggression. At the same time, Syria is realizing great local achievements—a source of pride to every Arab. He affirmed the importance of exploiting the resources of both countries to serve national development and higher pan-Arab interests. He added that all Syria's development and progress is for the whole Arab nation.

In the final session, they reviewed the results of the two sides' discussions during the visit within the framework of the mutual desire to expand and diversify relations in various fields and activities and on all levels in a way realizing the joint interests of the two countries and securing the steps toward Arab economic cooperation and integration.

The final session also established the foundations and rules of cooperation between the two countries in the fields of economy, trade, education, and technology. It also set timetables for implementing the stages of this cooperation. In this regard, they agreed on the following:

1. To carry out commercial transactions in international goods to be paid for through banks and reciprocal deals on goods produced by either of the two countries.

2. To exchange experience and cooperate in the fields of agriculture, irrigation, and land improvement, as well to provide the fraternal Yemeni country with quantities of seed to improve the yield of cereals and other crops.

3. To exchange experience and cooperation in the field of excavating, discovering, and exploiting natural resources and to move rapidly in this field within a defined timetable.

4. To cooperate in the sphere of studies and designs of projects that are intended to be established, as well as in the sphere of their implementation through the general construction companies and through the establishment of joint construction companies.

5. To facilitate and expand land, sea, and air transportation between the two countries. Specialized technical committees will meet to draw up the measures and formulas for this within a specific period of time.

6. To conclude an information cooperation agreement in the sphere of radio, television, and the press. It will be prepared and signed within a specific period of time.

7. To broadly cooperate in the sphere of education. This comprises teachers, curricula, and textbooks.

8. To sign an agreement for scientific and technical cooperation on the exchange of experts, specialists, information, publications, and on training cadres in the sphere of statistics, specifications and measurements, agriculture, natural resources, and others. This agreement will be prepared and signed within a specific period of time.

YAR Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani extended an invitation to Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi to visit Sanaa. Prime Minister Al-Zu'bi accepted the invitation with thanks and its date will be set through the normal diplomatic channels.

At the end of the session of talks, the following agreements were signed:

A. An agreement for cooperation between the two fraternal countries' planning apparati. The agreement was signed for the YAR by 'Alawi Salih al-Salami, minister of finance, and acting minister of economy, supply, and trade. On the Syrian side, the agreement was signed by Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs.

B. An agreement for economic and trade cooperation. The agreement was signed for the YAR by 'Alawi Salih al-Salami, and for Syria by Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade.

Following this, 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and Mahmud al-Zu'bi signed an agreement on the formation of the higher joint committee and the official minutes on the talks.

The session of talks was attended on the Syrian side by Dr Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister; Muhammad Salman, information minister; Hassan al-Saqqa, minister of supply and internal trade; Dr Muhammad al-'Imadi, minister of economy and foreign trade; Dr Sabah Baqjaji, minister of state for planning affairs; Muhammad Ghassan Halabi, minister of education; Khalid al-Mahayini, minister of finance; the Syrian charge d'affaires in Sanaa; and ranking prime ministry officials. On the YAR side the talks were attended by Ahmad Muhammad al-Anisi, minister of education; 'Alawi Salih al-Salami, minister of finance, and acting minister of economy, supply, and trade; 'Abd al-Hadi Husayn al-Hamadani, YAR ambassador in Damascus; Muhyi al-Din al-Dabi, under secretary of the ministry of economuy, supply, and trade for the production sector; and Hasan al-Huti, counsellor at the ministry of economy, supply, and trade.

# Afghanistan

## *Pakistani Charge Summoned to Foreign Ministry*

*LD0709171088 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan reports that the charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summoned today, 7 September, to the ministry, where the following points were conveyed to him by the deputy head of the First Political Department:

Reports received by the security forces of the Republic of Afghanistan note that on Tuesday, 6 September, at 1157 a Pakistani Air Force jet intruded into the airspace of the Republic of Afghanistan in southeast Asmar, where it carried out a reconnaissance mission before returning to Pakistani territory. Therefore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan strongly protests to the Government of Pakistan over this blatant violation by the Pakistani Air Force and strongly requests the Islamic Republic of Pakistan to refrain from such violations that only intensify the tension, and to observe its obligations to the contents of the first instrument of the Geneva accords. Otherwise, responsibility for the consequences of such violation and intrusion will rest with the authorities of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.

## Najibullah Attends Islamic Affairs Meeting

*LD0709201188 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Esteemed Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, participated this morning in an extraordinary meeting of the Presidency's Islamic Affairs High Advisory Council, which was convened to arrange an international Islamic gathering on the eve of the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad in Kabul. At the start of the meeting some verses of the holy Koran were read by Qari Muhammad Weqar. Then Muhammad Sarwar Mangal, deputy prime minister and chairman of the coordinating commission on preparations for international Islamic gatherings, reported on its achievements.

Then Esteemed Najibullah spoke about the importance of the international Islamic gathering in the Republic of Afghanistan. Setting out the duties of the commission and the relevant organs, he said the international Islamic gathering, which is being held to mark the birthday of the Prophet Muhammad at the proposal of the ulema and the Presidency's Islamic Affairs High Advisory Council, is one of the most significant achievements of national reconciliation and should be arranged with due emphasis in Kabul.

Esteemed Najibullah, shedding light on the constructive and valuable role of the international Islamic conference in implementing the aims of the policy of national reconciliation and drawing Islamic figures toward peace and serving Islam, gave instructions to the related organs about the convening of the conference.

A source in the Presidency's Islamic Affairs High Advisory Council told BIA that 152 of the Islamic countries' prominent figures are invited to the forthcoming Islamic gathering taking place in Kabul. In the conference the most important problems of the Islamic countries and efforts to ensure peace in the world and further consolidate solidarity with the Islamic countries will be discussed. In addition to the president and advisers of the Presidency's Islamic Affairs High Advisory Council, the chairman and members of the commission on preparations for international Islamic gatherings, officials of the Ministry of Islamic Affairs and High Council of Clergy and Ulema, and related organs took part in the meeting.

## Najibullah Sends Message to Qatari Amir

*LD0409064088 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Kabul, Sep 3, BAKHTAR—Congratulatory message has been sent by president of the Republic of Afghanistan, Najibullah to Qatar addressed to the king of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani on the occasion of the independence day (Sep. 3, 1971) of that country.

In the message cordial congratulations of the Afghan leader and people of Afghanistan were expressed to the king and people of that country. Prosperity and welfare of the people of that country is also hoped in the message.

## Mujahidin Want Direct Talks on Soviet POW's

*BK0709152988 Hong Kong AFP in English 1454 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Islamabad, Sep 7 (AFP)—The Afghan resistance has told the U.N. Human Rights Commission that the issue of Soviet prisoners of war (POW's) can only be resolved through direct dialogue between the rebels and the Soviet Union, rebel sources said Wednesday [7 September].

Sayyed Ahmad Gaylani, president of the seven-party rebel alliance based in Pakistan, told commission representative Felix Ermacora that "the main hurdle to the peaceful solution was the presence of the Soviet troops and imposition of a puppet regime on the Afghan people," his office said.

He met with Mr. Ermacora in the Pakistani border city of Peshawar on Tuesday to discuss the fate of more than 300 Soviet soldiers listed by Moscow as missing in action in the nine-year Afghan war.

Rebels fighting the Soviet-backed Afghan Government acknowledge they have a large number of Soviet prisoners but never disclose an exact figure.

He said the alliance leadership "had asked for direct talks with Moscow but so far there was no word from the Soviet side." The rebels say they have shelved the issue until the last Soviet soldier leaves Afghanistan.

During the talks, Mr. Gaylani told Mr. Ermacora that among other human rights violations the Soviets and the Afghan Government had recently intensified "indiscriminate bombing of civilian targets resulting in thousands of casualties among the innocent people."

He cited the cities of Qalat, Maidan Shahr and Konduz, which became targets of intense artillery attacks and aerial bombardment when rebels captured the three provincial capitals.

"Thousands of civilians died in the raids carried directly from the Soviet territory," Mr. Gaylani said, adding that "the mujahidin had to relinquish control of these places to avoid further civilian losses."

Mr. Ermacora met with the Afghan Government leaders last winter for similar discussions to prepare a report on the human rights situation in Afghanistan at the forthcoming U.N. General Assembly session.

### 'Ringleader' Killed in Rebel Infighting

*LD0309200888 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari*
*1600 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] As a result of serious clashes that took place yesterday between groups belonging to the Gulbuddin band in the village of (Haydar Khani), Laghman Province, Shamshad, a notorious ringleader of the Gulbuddin band, was killed and other two from the hostile sides injured seriously.

The report adds that as a result of these clashes, which erupted over the matter of dividing property stolen from the people, a number of houses were damaged.

### 'Warmongering Elements' Crushed in Takhar

*LD0409224188 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto*
*1530 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] BIA reports that those warmongering elements who were trying to disrupt peace and security in the vicinity of Takhar Province, by carrying out criminal actions and plundering people's property, were crushed yesterday as a result of blows by the country's armed forces.

The reports add that as a result of these operations, in which the people in the central part of Takhar Province took an active part, crushing blows were inflicted on the extremist elements and a number of their hideouts were destroyed.

During these operations 11 extremists were martyred and many were injured. Also two rocket launcher and eight machine guns were seized during these operations.

According to another report, during the continuing mopping-up operations, another group was crushed in the vicinity of Konduz Province. During these operations, which took place in the regions of Gala-e Gow and Zakhel [placenames as received] of that provnce, 10 extremists were crushed and a number of their weapons were destroyed.

According to a report from Ghazni Province, a terrorist group belonging to the extremist bands that had planned to enter the city of Ghazni during the night was crushed by the armed forces. During these operations seven extremist elements were crushed, and a rocket launcher and three light machine guns were seized. A number of their weapons were destroyed.

Also last night a warmongering group, which had been entrenched in the areas around Yakhchal, Helmand Province, was crushed. During these operations 11 warmongering extremists were crushed and many of them were injured. As a result of these operations a DShK, a number of light weapons and a hideout were destroyed.

According to another report two ringleaders of the extremists elements Muhammad Yusuf and Muhammadullah were arrested in the region of [word indistinct] Samangan Province. Also the local inhabitants of that region took an active part side by side with securtiy forces in these operations.

### 'Extremist' Groups Clash in Ghazni Province

*LD0509022388 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto*
*1530 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Disagreements and armed clashes arising from the distribution of goods stolen from the people are increasing among the armed extremist groups of the so-called Nasr Organization, the Islamic Party, the Islamic Front, and Revolutionary Islamic Movement in the areas around Qarah Bagh District in Ghazni Province.

According the BAKHTAR military section, as a result of recent armed clashes between these extremist groups in the villages of (Saracha), Nowabad, (Mashi), (Sayed Wali), and Zardalu of that district, seven persons from the hostile side—including Gul Muhammad, a ringleader of the National Front [Mahaz-e Meli]—were killed and a number were badly injured. Also in the course of these clashes, two Arab advisers who were assisting the Islamic Party extremist group were killed and another two were arrested.

In addition, the office of the Nasr extremist group in Badani region was set on fire by the members of Islamic Party. The report adds that also as result of these internal disagreements and clashes, three innocent inhabitants were martyred and more than 100 houses and 32 shops were either destroyed or set on fire. Also as a result of armed clashes taking place in the mountains of (Zardkashan) and (Zango) in that district, dozens have been killed up to now and a large number of have been injured.

### 'Extremists' Defeated in 5 Provinces

*LD0509082288 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0415 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Kabul, September 4, BAKHTAR—A group of armed extremists was crushed in Zarghun Shar, Lowgar Province, recently.

Our military correspondent reports from that province that the group headed by Afridi [name as received] which was moving toward Kolangar District of the province came under the heavy blows of the Afghan armed forces.

During the operation 23 members of the group province [as received] were killed and their arms and ammunition destroyed.

A similar report from Nangarhar Province indicates that another extremist group was crushed by the armed forces at the Gowshtah District of Nangarhar Province.

A group of the warmongers who was nested at the Nad-e 'Ali District of the Helmand Province, south of the country, came under heavy blows of the armed forces. Ten extremists were killed and 16 wounded during an operation carried out by the armed forces at that district. Various kind of their arms including one ground-to-ground missile launcher and their two vehicles were destroyed as well.

With the assistance of local people of Baharak District of Badakhshan Province, north east of the country, the armed forces crushed a terrorist armed group recently.

According to another report of our military correspondent from Konarha Province, east of the country, a group of extremists was smashed at the Asmar District of the province during the current week.

### Rockets Discovered in Kabul Province

*LD0509082788 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0421 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] Kabul, September 4, BAKHTAR—Four ground-to-ground rockets which were hidden by the extremist groups in Khak-e Jabbar Subdistrict of Kabul Province, for firing on residential areas, were discovered and evacuated by the security forces on Saturday. 25 kg of the explosives was confiscated by the security forces as well.

### Islamabad Notes Mujahidin's Recent Successes

*BK0709161088 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] According to reports, the mujahidin have achieved further successes in their continued struggle against the foreign-installed Kabul regime in various parts of Afghanistan.

Yesterday morning, the mujahidin captured a military base, including three tanks and a large quantity of arms and ammunition, at Spin Buldak.

According to a delayed report, the mujahidin attacked the Keshem District in Badakhshan Province last week and captured more than 600 Kabul regime soldiers, including 2 commanders. They also seized six tanks, a large number of mortars, heavy machineguns, and arms and ammunition.

On Friday [2 August], the mujahidin attacked the Najibullah regime troops at Ghaziabad, causing heavy casualties.

On Monday, the mujahidin shot down an aircraft near Khar Zar in Konduz Province, killing all on board. According to another report, the Afghan mujahidin launched successful operations in Jalalabad, (Shatarhar), and Ghani Kheyl in Nangarhar and shot down an airplane near Qandahar on Sunday. They also shot down a helicopter at the (Kamir) area of (Momin).

## Bangladesh

### Dhaka Updates Flood Situation 7 Sep

*BK0709131688 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Reports received from various parts of Bangladesh speak of an improvement in the overall flood situation with further fall in the water level of most of the major rivers. But the situation has deteriorated in Hobiganj and Bagerhut Districts and remained critical in Rajbari, Madaripur, Pabna, Narsindi, Netrokona, Narayanganj and Dhaka Districts.

In the capital city Dhaka, more areas including Gulshan and Banani, where most of the diplomats residences are located, went under water increasing the misery of the people.

More than 300,000 marooned people have taken shelter in different relief camps in the capital alone. Flood waters are, however, receding slowly at some places in the western part of the capital.

The flood situation has improved considerably in Rajshahi and the affected people, who have taken shelter in relief camps, are expected to return to their homes in a couple of days. The situation has started improving in Mymensingh also following continued fall in the old Brahmaputra River.

Meanwhile, the devastating floods have engulfed fresh areas in the southern region of Bangladesh. The latest district affected is Bagerhut where a vast area has been submerged with rise in the river Madhumati. The situation in Chandpur continues to be critical.

The northeastern district of Hobiganj has gone under 3 to 4 feet water and so is the case with the Pabna in the northwest.

Rail communication between Dhaka and the rest of the country remained snapped for the 4th day today. Domestic flights and river transports have been maintaining communication links between the capital and the rest of the country facilitating the supply of essential commodities. The Bangladesh Airlines has established an air bridge with Calcutta Airport to ferry the international passengers.

Relief operations are continuing in full swing in all the 50 flood affected districts of Bangladesh. The local administration in cooperation with the people and the members of the Bangladesh Armed Forces are distributing food, clothing, water purifying tablets and other medicines among the flooded people. About 2,000 medical teams have been working day and night to serve the ailing people who have fallen victims to various waterborne diseases. Different voluntary and social-cultural organization have continued the relief operations. [passage omitted]

## India

### 'Terrorists' Kill 5 in Separate Incidents

*BK0509034688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists shot dead five persons, including a mother and her daughter, and seriously injured a Home Guard jawan [soldier] in separate incidents last night. According to an official spokesman, the terrorists attacked a house in Patti town of Amritsar District and killed three persons. A farmer was shot dead in Gurdaspur District, while another was killed in Ferozepore District. The terrorists also shot at and seriously injured a Home Guard jawan in Mehadpur village of Jullundur District.

Meanwhile, the state government has decided to further strengthen 41 police stations identified as sensitive, falling in terrorist-prone areas. Fifty percent of them are in the border districts of Gurdaspur, Amritsar, and Ferozepore.

### 'Terrorists' Kill 8 Train Passengers in Amritsar

*BK0809032688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] In Punjab, terrorists gunned down eight train passengers and injured two others in Amritsar District last night. Official sources in Chandigarh said that a group of about 10 terrorists armed with Chinese assault rifles attacked the passengers traveling in the rear coach of the Amritsar-Khemkaran passenger train when it halted a Ruriasal railway station. Many passengers jumped from the train and escaped the attack.

The terrorists fled away when the railway protection force jawans [soldiers] opened fire. Security forces have fanned out in the area to apprehend the killers. The director general of state police, Mr K.P.S. Gill, is also going (?round the spot) to personally supervise the operations against terrorists.

In another incident, two persons were gunned down and two others injured, when some scooter-borne terrorists opened indiscriminate fire in Village Atal in Jullundur District late last night.

### 1 Dead, 7 Injured in Ghaziabad Police Firing

*BK0689032888 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] In Uttar Pradesh, one person was killed and seven injured when police resorted to firing to disperse a stone throwing mob protesting against the death of a girl student in a road accident in Ghaziabad yesterday. The police opened fire when the lathi [baton] charge failed to contain the violence in which 12 policemen were injured. Twelve vehicles were set on fire. The district magistrate has ordered a magisterial inquiry into the incident.

### Curfew Imposed on City in Rajasthan

*BK0709092688 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] In Rajasthan, indefinite curfew has been clamped in the interior areas of Udaipur city since yesterday evening following tension between two communities. According to the district magistrate, the situation is under control and no untoward incident has been reported.

### Gandhi 'Open to Suggestions' on Defamation Bill

*BK0609164788 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 6 Sep 88*

[Text] The prime minister has said that he is prepared to discuss all aspects of the defamation bill threadbare. Addressing the valedictory meeting of the general body of the Congress-I parliamentary party in New Delhi today, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said that although he felt that the bill is needed, he is open to suggestions. He said the bill is not aimed at curbing the freedom of press as defamation and press freedom are two different things. One is not to be confused with the other.

Referring to the role of opposition party, Mr Gandhi observed that the opposition seems to be playing an unreasonable, irrational and arbitrary role. That is why, he pointed out, the onus and the responsibility for real constructive activity devote largely on the shoulders of Congressmen. He said an effort should be made by the party to suggest all economic measures required to be adopted by the government before the presentation of the budget. He said all policies and programs must contribute toward shaping our common view about the future India. He wanted the final recommendations of the party on the panchayati raj [local administration] and district administration and electoral reforms to be ready by November.

## Iran

### More on Peace Talks With UN Representative

#### Eliasson Meets Delegations

*LD0701174380 Tehran IRNA in English 1649 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Geneva, Sept. 7, IRNA—The U.N. secretary general's personal representative on the Iraq-Iran conflict, Jan Eliasson held separate "informal talks" with the Iranian and Iraqi delegations here at the U.N. headquarters today.

"Ambassador Eliasson is aware of the importance of maintaining the momentum of the talks, U.N. Spokesman Therese Gastaut said in her daily briefing here at 6 p.m.

She also said Eliasson was working with his aides and that "the possibility of further informal talks should not be excluded." Gastaut also confirmed that Eliasson had met with Saudi ambassador to Washington Prince Bandar ibn Sultan here yesterday evening.

Prince Sultan's visit here is linked to diplomatic activities on behalf of the Arab world to bridge the gap between Iran and Iraq in the peace talks.

The talks which officially began here on Aug. 25, were stalled two days later as the Iraqi side raised some "untimely" preconditions such as clearing of the Arvand River and access to free navigation in the Persian Gulf.

These issues however have not been envisaged by the Security Council Resolution 598 which the two sides have officially accepted and which has so far only established a ceasefire between the parties (Aug. 20).

Even when negotiations were underway in New York under the good offices of the Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Iraq tried to create impediments by resorting to the pretext of face-to-face talks before a truce could go into effect.

Foreign Miniser 'Ali Akbar Velayati of Iran and his Iraqi counterpart Tariq 'Aziz held two rounds of direct talks which were later bogged down over Iraq's new excuses.

With the talks having litle progress since then, some diplomatic activities started to break the stalemate but these efforts have not reached anywhere so far.

Foreign ministers of the (Persian) Gulf Cooperation Council met last weekend in Riyadh in a new effort to move the peace talks ahead. The (P)GCC decided to despatch envoys to Tehran and Baghdad as part of its efforts. The council also urged the Security Council to take every measure for the progress of the talks.

#### Khamene'i Position Unchanged

*LD0409102488 Tehran IRNA in English 1014 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Mashhad, Khorasan Prov., Sept. 4, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i said in the provincial city of Tabas Sunday morning that Iran stands by the principles of its revolution and maintains its position towards the ruling government in Iraq.

He told a group of citizens in Tabas that the post-revolution experience is highly valuable to the Iranian people.

On Iran's policy he said as a result of Iran's acceptance of the UN Resolution 598 Iraq has been politically isolated. He added national reconstruction is as important as the war used to be, and called on people's contribution to the task.

The president also received a group of families of martyrs of Tabas, and paid tribute to the town's martyrs in honorific terms. Khamene'i is now in Tabas as part of his tour of Khorasan Province.

#### Velayati Comments on Meeting

*LD0209122788 Tehran IRNA in English 1106 GMT 2 Sep 88*

[Text] Geneva, Sept.2, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati held a 90-minute meeting with the special representative of the United Nation's secretary general here this morning in the first round of official talks with Jan Eliasson who replaced Perez de Cuellar Thurdsay.

Iraq's Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz was expected to meet Eliasson shortly.

Velayati told reporters after the meeting that there were still some "difficulties" and deplored Iraq for raising "new preconditions every day."

He accused Baghdad of violating the Aug. 20 ceasefire in more than 60 cases saying that this had been reported to the U.N. secretariate.

Velayati said after the establishment of ceasefire on Aug. 20 the Iraqis asked for "face-to-face" talks and after that raised such unrelated pretexts as clearing the Arvand River (or Shatt al-'Arab) and later tried to undermine Iran's right in the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Hormuz.

"We do hope that in the future we will not face new preconditions (by the Iraqi side)," he remarked.

The Iranian foreign minister reiterated his country's full preparedness to continue cooperation with the U.N. chief and his personal representative for the Iran-Iraq conflict Jan Eliasson.

He said he was also glad that the secretary general will continue his supervision over the peace talks despite his appointment of Eliasson to take care of the matter in his absence.

### Velayati Discusses Problems

*NC0809065088 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Report by unidentified correspondent in Geneva; date not given—recorded]

[Text] Speaking to a group of correspondents, our foreign minister Mr Velayati stressed that the Geneva talks are being held back and have been beset with difficulties because of the Iraqi preconditions. The Iraqi delegation does not have the necessary jurisdiction, he said. It is not capable of making any fundamental decisions, it is moving only in a restricted framework, and it keeps repeating its past arguments. He added that the irrelevant preconditon concerning the clearing of the Arvand River [Shatt al-'Arab waterway] and Iraqi insistence on this goes beyong the legal 1975 accord. Our country's foreign minister described the issue of passage across the Strait of Hormuz as another problem and said: In the light of Iran's definite rights, ships must be ensured safe passage. He added: We can only act in a more flexible way when our rights are not jeopardized and there is some headway in the talks. Otherwise, there is no reason for such flexibility, as we have declared our willingness and have continued this willingness until now. We are carrying on direct or indirect talks under the supervision of the secretary general on condition that it is within the confines of the resolution and the secretary general's plan.

He said the talks require patience, attention to detail, perseverance, and persistence so that an overall, just, noble, and durable peace that preserves the legitimate rights of the Islamic Republic of Iran may be attained. In fact, these talks are, in a way, a defense of Islam, Iran, and the aspirations of the Islamic Republic in the field of international politics, he stated.

### Mo'ayeri on Iraqi Subversion

*LD0409114988 Tehran IRNA in English 1140 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 4, IRNA—Expansion of relations between Tehran and Budapest in different fields was stressed in a meeting between Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali-Reza Mo'ayeri and Hungarian Ambassador in Iran Zsigmond Kazmer here today.

The Hungarian ambassador said in the meeting that his country is ready to cooperate in reconstruction programs in Iran.

Mo'ayeri in response expressed pleasure with Hungarian Premier Karoly Grosz acceptance of an invitation from his Iranian counterpart for a visit to Iran, and said the visit would be a good opportunity for expansion of mutual cooperation in various areas, and particularly in reconstruction.

Elsewhere Mo'ayeri dealt with Iraq's subverting of the on-going peace talks in Geneva and commented that Baghdad's unilateral abrogation of the 1975-accord between Iran and Iraq would set the precedence, as well as establishment justification, for unilateral voiding, by any government, of all such documents at any future time.

### Cabinet Assesses Progress

*LD0409135988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Excerpts] The cabinet met this morning. First, a report was delivered about issues relating to those disabled in the imposed war. [passage omitted]

A report was then delivered to the cabinet in connection with the Geneva talks on implementation of resolution 598. The cabinet emphasized the need to resist the Iraqi delegation's efforts to divert the Geneva talks from the framework of resolution 598 and the UN secretary general's implementation plan or to raise issues which can be raised at other junctures, and the need for the Islamic Republic of Iran to adhere to the 1975 [Algiers] agreement which is not subject to unilateral revocation, in line with international regulations.

### Judicial Council Endorses Position

*NC0409065388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mr Habibi, minister of justice and a member of the Iranian delegation to the Geneva talks, submitted a report at yesterday evening's session of the Supreme Judicial Council [SJC] regarding his visit to Geneva and the talks between the Iranian and Iraqi delegations with the UN secretary general acting as intermediary.

The SJC then endorsed the Islamic Republic of Iran's position rejecting all preconditions by Iraq and expressed the hope that with the implementation of the clauses of Resolution 598, which have been accepted by the Islamic Republic of Iran, a durable peace can be established in the region. During this session, a report by the rapporteur of the employment commission was presented on the transfer of judges, the appointment of a head and consultant for the various departments of the Ministry of Justice, and the transfer of a group of judges as representatives of the SJC under Article 4 of Clause 3 of the Women's Social and Cultural Bill—and who were introduced as members—to the Supreme Council of the Cultural Revolution.

## Velayati Meets Kuwaiti UN Envoy in Geneva

*LD0809083388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] According to an IRNA report, our country's foreign minister, Mr Velayati, yesterday met and conferred with Salim Jabir al-Ahmad Al Sabah, Kuwait's permanent envoy at the European headquarters of the United Nations in Geneva. In the course of this meeting, the Iran-Iraq talks under auspices of the UN in Geneva were reviewed.

## Larijani Visits France for High-Level Talks

For reportage on the visit to France by Mohammad Javad Larijani, deputy foreign minister for Euro-American affairs, including topics to be discussed in talks with French Prime Minister Michel Rocard and Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, see the France section of the 6 September West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

## Musavi Tells Cabinet of Resignation Issue

*LD0709112588 Tehran IRNA in English 1110 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 7, IRNA—A cabinet session presided over by Prime Minister Hoseyn Musavi was held here Wednesday morning. During the session the letter of Imam Khomeyni to the prime minister and premier's withdrawal of his resignation were discussed.

The need for formulating executive policies for the better implementation of Imam's Tuesday order calling on prime minister to continue to serve in his post within the framework of Islam and the constitutional law was stressed.

The prime minister referring to Imam's letter said that Imam Khomeyni is the one authority to distinguish the interests of the system and the country and the government is proud of following Velayat-e Faqih (Office of the Religious Jurisprudence).

The prime minister who in a letter Monday night had submitted his resignation to President Khamene'i which he turned down, told the cabinet that all messages and reminders from the Imam regardless of their purpose are regarded as divine blessings. He stressed that the government feels responsible to carry them out.

More on his resignation he said that by submitting it he did not want to offend Imam's feelings and had done it solely for the interest of the system.

The prime minister said that as the imam has stated the country is under difficult conditions, and expressed the hope that with the decree of the Imam instructing him to continue service within the framework of Islam and the constitutional law, the present problems would be removed.

He stressed that both internal and external policies are inspired by the message of the Imam. And emphasised that the government is proud of treading the path of anti-imperialism and neither East nor West policy. He continued, "within the framework of Islam and the constitutional law we will stand by our stance that we have taken from the messages and guidelines of the Imam."

At the end he thanked the Imam for his blessings for the government in different occasions and for having encouraged it to continue its service.

## Khomeyni Gives Decree on Punishments

*LD0709112988 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] The imam of the ummah, in an order addresed to President Khamene'i, the chairman of the Assembly for Discerning the Interests of the Islamic System, while abolishing the right to carry out state punishment, described the Assembly for Discerning the Interests of the Islamic System as the body in charge of carrying out state and religious verdicts of punishment. The text of the imam of the ummah's decree is as follows:

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Hajj Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, may your blessings continue, while offering my greetings and best wishes to the esteemed members of the Assembly for Discerning the Interests of the Islamic System, now that, thanks to Almighty God, the war has reached the stage at which I abolish the right to carry out state punishments. It is a prerogative of the fully qualified jurisconsults to carry out punishment verdicts, be they religious or state punishment verdicts; in order to prevent corruption it is necessary that the Assembly for Discerning the Interests of the Islamic System should decide on carrying out or not carrying out such sentences and should act as it discerns to be proper. I wish you success, God willing.

[Signed] Ruhollah al-Musavi al-Khomeyni, 4 September 1988

### Assembly Discusses Decree

*NC0809052788 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Tex] The Central News Unit, citing the president's public relations department, reports that following the decree by Imam Khomeyni on the transfer of power regarding state punishments to the Assembly for Discernin the Interests of the Islamic System, the assembly convened a session last night. Experts and those in charge of implementing state punishments also participated in the session. A report on past performance regarding state punishments was presented and after the necessary queries were addressed to the experts it was decided that, until the completion of the necessary investigation, the network of state punishment officials should continue its work and the assembly should carry on its studies and surveys in the meantime.

### Khatami Speaks in Yazd on War, Reconstruction

*LD0309125488 Tehran IRNA in English 0830 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Yazd, Sept. 3, IRNA—Minister of Culture and Ershad-e Eslami Mohammad Khatami said here Friday that regardless of where the imposed war leads it has had two major outcomes. It has not fullfilled the objectives of the enemy and his plan for weakening of Iran.

Khatami here on the occasion of the Government Week addressing the Friday prayers congregation added that rather the enemy who launched the war on Iran has been forced to retreat to his own borders whereas the Islamic Republic of Iran stands strong.

The second outcome of the war, he told the worshippers, is that the Iranian nation must be prepared for a long-term struggle against the world arrogance. The nation must be ready to defend the revolution and its achievements at any time, he said.

Khatami who is also the publicity deputy of the General Command Headquarters said that the war should not be considered a closed subject, adding that the enemy humiliated by Islam and the Islamic revolution will not easily let go of the matter.

He further stressed that as in time of war the Islamic Republic of Iran is serious about peace and will make political and international efforts for establishment of an honourable peace.

However, since the enemy has been making mischievous moves, the issue of the war should not be regarded as over, said Khatami.

On post-war reconstruction, he said it will be based on two factors, anti-imperialist struggle and establishing social justice. The notion of a consumption-oriented economy should be avoided and self-sufficiency and economic independence be regarded as the main goals.

### Khamene'i on Measures Against Chemical Weapons

*LD0309192488 Tehran IRNA in English 1628 GMT 3 Sep 88*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 3, IRNA—President 'Ali Khamene'i said today that the arms race especially in nuclear and chemical weapons is a serious threat to international peace and security.

The president in his message to the United Nations conference on disarmament in Geneva termed the wide-scale use of chemical weapons as one of the worst inhuman acts, and a grave issue which deserved special attention. "Iran has been a victim of this catastrophic deployment of chemical weapons," he added.

Failure of the international community to seriously react to blatant violations of the United Nations Charter and other international laws by aggressor states will undoubtedly jeopardize global disarmament and real peace, President Khamene'i stressed in his message to the conference whose chairmanship Iran assumed last Thusday.

He said Iran considers as "positive" the prospect of an arms detente between the superpowers which tends to eliminate intermediate missiles. The measure could be considered a concrete step towards international disarmament, he added.

Repeated and blatant use of chemical arms even against civilians in cities and villages if not stopped, would become a dangerous routine, endangering world peace and security, said Khamene'i, urging world bodies to take serious measures to prevent "this hazardous trend".

### Ayatollah Montazeri Holds Meetings in Qom

*LD0309070488 Tehran IRNA IN English 0657 GMT 3 sep 88*

[Text] Qom, Sept. 3, IRNA—Ayatollah Hosreyn al'li Montazeri here Friday received Chief Justice Ayatollah Abdolkarim Musavi Ardabili and discussed different issues with him.

On Thursday and Friday Ayatollah Montazeri also received his representatives to the universities, Governor of the Central bank Majid Qasemi and also Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati.

### Reza'i Presides Over IRGC Graduation Ceremonies
*NC0409072588 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 4 Sep 88*

[Text] The graduation ceremonies for the conclusion of the fifth round of courses in seamanship and ninth round of diving courses at the Training Center for Specialized Naval Courses of the IRGC at Seyyed ol-Shohada' Base, accompanied by the staging of naval maneuvers by base personnel, were held last evening in the presence of Mr Mohsen Reza'i, the commander of the IRGC, in the area of Mordab-e Zibakenar in Bandar-e Anzali.

The Central News Unit reports that the participants learned the disciplines of seamanship, diving, combat tactics, and all other military skills. The report adds: Soldiers participating in these training courses staged two-phase maritime maneuvers with the use of speedboats, and which included ambush (?attacks) combat operations, and the taking of predetermined targets, thus displaying their combat readiness.

### Gendarmerie Conscripts To Register by 10 Oct
*LD0509134388 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Text] The General Service Office of the State General Gendarmerie issued a statement today urging all absent military service draftees to register for compulsory service by 10 October in accordance with the approval issued by the Supreme War Support Council.

Absent draftees will be given 1 year of added service over and above their general service term if they fail to report before 10 October. Subsequent to their arrest, 2 months of added service will be given for every 1 month's delay in reporting.

Conscripts failing to register by 10 October who are subsequently assessed to be deserters, will be sentenced to execution.

### Iranian Toilers' Radio on Musavi Resignation
*LD0709171788 (Clandestine) Radio of the Iranian Toilers in Persian 0230 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] Dear listeners, as you heard in the news Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi submitted his resignation to Khamene'i last night. On the one hand, Musavi's resignation is an expression of his dissatisfaction with current trends and the strong disagreements that he and his colleagues have with Hashemi-Rafsanjani's team over the issue of the war and other economic, political, and social problems facing the country. At the same time, Musavi's resignation is a sign of the fact the he has lost hope of emerging victorious in the power struggle with the Majlis.

During the first sessions of the third Majlis the alliance of deputies was such that they were inclined toward Musavi and his allies positions, thus enabling them to prevent Hashemi-Rafsanjani's group from seizing power; however, developments behind closed doors during the 39-day Majlis recess, on the pretext that people were being mobilized for the fronts, probably brought about some change in this balance of forces. Musavi and others with similar views within the government, the Majlis, and other institutions want to see some effective and radical measures taken against the private sector and the plunderers of the bazaar who have accumulated 1.3 trillion tumans in (?cash). They also call for greater government supervision of domestic and foreign trade.

At the same time Musavi, prime minister of the government fueling the war, is displeased at the sudden turn about of the regime's policy in connection with the acceptance of Resolution 598. There is no doubt that during the 1 and ½ months of the Majlis recess Musavi and his allies were under great pressure to fall into line with the stances of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's group, which are also supported by Khomeyni. His meeting last week and that of the cabinet with Khomeyni, attended by Khamene'i, during which Khomeyni stressed the need for the private sector to be free under the nominal auspices of the government—that is, the program of Hashemi-Rafsanjani's team—supports this argument. Events concerning the trend of peace and the start of direct negotiations between Iran and Iraq also contributed to weakening the government's position in this connection. During this period Musavi never expressed his effective and direct support for the events related to the trend of peace led by Hashemi-Rafsanjani and has implicitly criticized and expressed concern about the latter's policy of the need for moving all the more closely to the West.

Musavi's resignation demonstrates on the one hand the strong pressure being made by the Hashemi-Rafsanjani group and also by Khamene'i, supported by Khomeyni, to weaken Musavi's stances in the Majlis, and on the other the resistance offered by Musavi and his friends in the face of power becoming concentrated in the hands of the power coalition of Rafsanjani, Khamene'i, and some persons of Khomeyni's household. This resistance marks the beginning of fresh tensions and developments that can be predicted to emerge in the internal differences and disagreements within the regime. The proposed bill to dissolve the ministries of defense and IRGC and their merger into one ministry, whose urgency was immediately rejected in the Majlis, today can be counted as part of the policy to consolidate power by Rafsanjani's group, which will cause a lot of squabbling.

At present between the rival factions of the regime, especially between Hashemi-Rafsanjani and Musavi and his allies' groups, the question that can be asked is: Around which policy and program does the concentration of power revolve? Although Khamene'i has rejected Musavi's resignation until the new cabinet is elected, this does not mean that he will be retained as prime minister and will obtain a vote of confidence from the Majlis. What can be said is that Musavi's resignation is another turning-point in the intensification of internal disagreements within the ruling circle, and that the political crisis in which the regime finds itself will continue to increase.

## Pakistan

### Afghan Aircraft Shot Down in Bajaur Area

*BK0709143688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 7 Sep 88*

[Text] An intruding Afghan aircraft was shot down by the Pakistan Air Force today at Nawagai in the Bajaur area. Afghan aircraft, which have been regularly violating Pakistani airspace for the past 2 weeks, were intercepted by Air Force planes on patrol when they again intruded into Pakistani airspace this morning. In the ensuing engagement, one Afghan aircraft was shot down. The other Afghan aircraft fled back into Afghanistan in panic, dropping bombs and fuel tanks from high altitude. The bombs fell on pasture areas between Bandagai and Guru villages in the Bajaur area, killing two cows and injuring four people. The Air Force planes returned safely to their base.

### Afghan Charge Summoned Over Airspace Violations

*BK0809025688 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] It has been officially announced in Islamabad that four Afghan planes intruded 28 miles into Pakistani airspace yesterday morning and dropped nine bombs on the villages of Khazana, Kheema, and Bandagai in Dir District, seriously injuring three Pakistani civilians. The Kabul administration's forces also fired 23 tank rounds that fell on Chaman city and its suburbs, seriously injuring seven Pakistanis and two Afghan refugees.

Six Afghan planes intruded 45 km into Pakistani airspace last Monday [5 September] morning and dropped six bombs on Dugai village near Dir, killing a school pupil, injuring six Pakistani civilians, and damaging 12 houses.

The UN goodwill missions in Afghanistan and Pakistan have been given separate protest notes about three violations of Pakistani airspace by the Kabul administration's planes on Monday morning. The Kabul administration's charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office and a strong protest was lodged over these unprovoked attacks. He was asked to inform the Kabul authorities that if such attacks are not stopped, all responsibility for the serious consequences will rest with the Kabul authorities.

### Afghan Pilots Reportedly Defect to Mujahidin

*BK0809035288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] A report says five pilots of the Kabul administration's air force have defected to the mujahidin. According to an agency report, they include one lieutenant colonel, one major and three captains. These five are the members of Squadron 377 based at Kabul airport.

Another report says that a militia commander, General Esmatullah Muslim, fled his base in Spin Buldak in the face of mounting pressure from the mujahidin in Qandahar. The Kabul militia suffered heavy damage due to mujahidin attacks on the Spin Buldak headquarters on Monday [5 September] and Tuesday.

Western diplomatic sources have been quoted as saying that the mujahidin have again made successful rocket attacks on Kabul recently which show that the mujahidin are tightening their seige around th Afghan capital. These sources say that the mujahidin have been cutting across main roads after penetrating into remote areas and are strengthening their positions around Kabul.

### Ishaq Khan Says Country Not Pressured by Threats

*BK0809083488 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 8 Sep 88*

[Text] The President, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, has said independence and freedom of the country was being given priority over other national interests. He was addressing the 78th [word indistinct] course passing out parade at the Pakistan Military Academy, Kakul, this morning. He said our defense preparedness is aimed at preserving national integrity and promotion of peace in the region and in the world at large. Pakistan wanted to live in peace, especially with its neighbors, so that the people of this region could benefit from peace and development.

The president said the country is passing through a critical juncture and during this period the whole nation especially, and the Armed Forces have demonstrated farsightedness and patriotism. This has raised country's status in the eyes of other nations.

Referring to the Geneva accord, he said Pakistan signed it with heart and was implementing it faithfully. We do not want to derive results of our choice from these accords and do not hope that the others would do so. He categorically said that Pakistan cannot be pressurized through threats as problems are not resolved through threats and pressures.

### Yaqub Khan Affirms Armed Forces' Preparedness

*BK0509033288 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 5 Sep 88*

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan has assured the Senate that Pakistan's Government and the Armed Forces are fully alert to meet any eventuality. Pakistan is ready to safeguard with its full might its independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity from danger or threat from any quarter. Replying to identical adjournment motions of Professor Khurshid Ahmad and Tariq Chaudhary, he said no information has been received about India alerting its forces on Pakistani borders. The movers presented their motions yesterday evening to seek a discussion on the threat posed to Pakistan's security in view of the alerting of the Indian troops by New Delhi along Pakistani borders allegedly to pressure [Islamabad] and the Indian prime minister's statement only 2 days before the Bahawalpur plane crash. The foreign minister said these motions are based on the speculations of the foreign media on the South Asian political situation after President Ziaul Haq's demise. He recalled that in his news conference last month, President [title as heard] Ghulam Ishaq Khan had denied the reports about the alerting of the Indian troops. The movers then did not press their motions.

Identical adjournment motions on the Bahawalpur plane crash were rejected because investigations into this issue are in progress. Defense Minister Mahmud A. Haroon told the house that government has not received any preliminary report regarding this accident and only a final report will be submitted after the completion of the laboratory test of various parts of the aircraft in the United States. The U.S. team, which is assisting the inquiry board set up by the Pakistan Air Force, will submit its report only to the Pakistani Government and to nobody else.

The defense minister denied the reports that any Air Force officer has been arrested. About the investigation report, he said the report may contain several aspects, and it will, possibly, not be in the national interest to disclose some of them.

Professor Khurshid Ahmad did not press his privilege motion on the alleged meeting of three provincial chief ministers with the Chief of the Army Staff during which they had reportedly discussed the role of the Armed Forces contrary to the Constitution. Justice Minister Wasim Sajjad said such a discussion had not taken place and any reports to this effect are merely speculations. Culture Minister Malik Faridullah Khan told the house that a new cultural policy is being formulated. He was replying to a motion introduced by Javad Jabbar. [passage omitted]